

Water Rates

Keep in Cash Drawer

Ordinance No. 134

WARRENTON, ORE.

City of Warrenton

March 27, 1923

Mayor: W. N. Francis

Auditor and Police Judge:

Sidney Campbell

(churches without toilets)

“FREE”

Should the water rent not be paid on or before the 15th day of the month a penalty of \$.50 will be attached and in the event that the water should be turned off a fee of \$1.00 will be charged for turning it on again.

This Book is the Property of
the City of Warrenton and
Must be Preservd by the
Water Users.

Date..... May 3, 1944

No. 210

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED FROM Mrs. J. Simonsen

President

Treas.

Hammond F. K. Stevens Association

the sum of Sixty five dollars and

Oregon

Bulletins 16

County

Year ending March 31, 1944

141255 PACIFIC STATE & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND
Mabel J. Slaney, State Treasurer

Dues for 26 members - \$ 6.50
President's Traveling Fund - - \$ -
Founders' Day - - - - - \$ -
- - - - - \$ -
- - - - - \$ -
Total - - - - \$ 6.50
Dollars

P. J. A. teacher
Left for teacher
and President.

Date May 10 1947

Name Mrs. Simonsen

Address Etstone

	Account Forwarded	
1	3 red mints	285
2	1 oral sugar	495
3		
4	This was formerly paid to paid out during last year	1380
5	which general opt. co	140
6		
7	all which be paid off	12.40
8		
9	Wrapping	60
10	newspaper	30
11	chocolates	30
12	Candy Party	60
13	Paper Clips	10
14		
15		
	31	\$14 30

Rediform No. 20

May 10-1947



BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon, May 15 1943

M. Simonsen

No.

Reg. No. Clerk ACCOUNT
FORWARDED

1	150 m 3 Bogs	158
2	Candy	100
3		
4	bars (11)	55
5		
6	6 Bogs	3.73
7		
8		
9	Deli	31.52
10	Thursdg	20
11		
12		
13		
	19	

1943



BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon, May 15 1943

M. Simonsen

No.

Reg. No. Clerk ACCOUNT
FORWARDED

1	150 m 3 Bogs	158
2	Candy	100
3		
4	bars (11)	55
5		
6	8 Bogs	3.73
7		
8		
9	Deli	31.52
10	Thursdg	20
11		
12		
13		
	19	

1943



Hammond, Oregon, 12/1/1943

M Miss Linn
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1	1 Apple	100
2	Dix	50
3	Mayo 150	625
4	150 Bago	
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
		18

2-1-1943



Hammond, Oregon, Jan 11/1944

M P.T.A.
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1	rolls	1.20
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		14

1-11-1944



Hammond, Oregon, Feb. 14/1944

M P.T.A.
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1	Coffee	.70
2	Rapkins	.15
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		14
13		

-14-1943



Hammond, Oregon, Feb. 8/1944

M P.T.A.
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1	Coffee	.36
2	Rapkins	.75
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		33
13		

8-1944

Date

Jan 7, 1944

No. 489

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED FROM Oleg Simonsen
P.O. Box 36 - Hammond
Hammond Fr Stevens Clatsop
Jan 7 1944 15/100
 the sum of

Bulletins 31

	Treas.
	Oregon
	County
	Dollars
Dues for 43 members	\$ 10.75
President's Traveling Fund	\$
Founders' Day	\$
	\$
Total	\$ 10.75

Year ending March 31, 1944

adah M. Landenwark, State Treasurer

138432 PACIFIC STATION & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND

1-7-1944

50460

50460

50460

Feb 1, 1947

No. 1241

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIPT

FOR REMITTER
TO DETACH AND HOLD
SEE OTHER SIDE

OREGON



143793 PACIFIC STATION & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND

	Treas.
	Oregon
	County
	Dollars
Received <u>Mar 11, 1947</u> <u>16.50</u>	\$ 16.50
Dues for 36 members	\$ 9.00
President's Traveling Fund	\$ 2.30
Founders' Day	\$
	\$
Total	\$ 16.50

Marcel L. Hagy

State Treasurer

M. P.T.A. H. Stevens - Hammond

Date Feb. 8 1944

Address Cardstock Clinics

	Account Forwarded
1	(1943)
2	June 1. (5 cards) 05
3	June 8. (25 cards) 25
4	Oct. 12. (25 cards) 25
5	
6	Feb 8, 1944 (25 cards) 25
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	Health Chairman
13	Mrs Anne Anderson
14	5
15	

.80

Rediform No. 22

2-8-1944

3-31-1947

Date April 6, 1945

No. 10

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED FROM Elyay Simonson

Treas.

Oregon

County

the sum of Twelve + 27/100

Dollars

Bulletins 17

Dues for 17 members - \$ 4.25

President's Traveling Fund - - \$ 4.00

Founders' Day - - - - - \$ 4.00

- \$

Total - - - - - \$ 12.25

Year ending March 31, 1945

Mabel S. Hagey, State Treasurer

141255 PACIFIC STATION & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND

4-6-1945

HOME BAKING CO., Inc.

1809 FRANKLIN AVE

Phone 1045

BRANCH STORE: 171 BOND ST.

Phone 1026

Astoria, Ore., 4-25-45

Name P. L. A.

Address Hammond St. 4-25-45

1 cake 3.25
dynamite pie 1
4.25

0307-25

4-25-1947

No. 28

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED FROM Elyay Simonson

Treas.

Oregon

County

the sum of 10

Bulletins 10

Dues for 10 members - \$ 3.50

President's Traveling Fund - - \$

Founders' Day - - - - - \$

Total - - - - - \$ 3.50

Also 1 - 25 High

Mrs Brown

Year ending March 31, 1944

Adelma Landreth

4-15-1944

141255 PACIFIC STATION & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND

Date..... Jan 7, 1944. No. 489

Εργασία η οποία σηματοδοτεί την επιτυχία της στην παραγωγή.

50460		W. 31, 1947	No. 1241
DOLLARS	50		
10	CENTS		
RECEIPT		Treas.	
FOR REMITTER		Oregon	
TO DETACH AND HOLD		County	
SEE OTHER SIDE		Dollars	
OREG		Dues 9.00	
MAY 1947		36 members - \$ 9.00	
Postage 500		President's Traveling Fund - - \$ 5.00	
Daily 250		Founders' Day - - - - - \$ 2.50	
ISSUING OFFICE STAMP HERE		Total - - - - - \$ 16.50	
16.50		Mabel J. Hagey, State Treasurer	
16.50		R.B.	

2-8-1941

Date April 15, 1945

No. 10

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED FROM Olivia J. Stevens

Treas.

Hammond & Stevens Association Gales Creek County
Oregon
the sum of Three & 50/100 Dollars

Bulletins 12

Dollars

Dues for	<u>17</u>	members	- \$ <u>4.25</u>
President's Traveling Fund	- - -	\$ <u>4.00</u>	
Founders' Day	- - - - -	\$ <u>4.00</u>	
		- \$	
Total	- - -	\$ <u>12.25</u>	

Year ending March 31, 1944

141255 PACIFIC STATION & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND

Mabel H. Hayes Mary, State Treasurer

4-6-1945

HOME BAKING CO., Inc.

1309 FRANKLIN AVE

Phone 1045

BRANCH STORE: 171 BOND ST.

Phone 1026

Astoria, Ore.

1944

Name John A. Stevens

Address Hammond, Ore.

<u>1</u>	<u>Cake</u>	<u>3.25</u>
	<u>dyna-mite</u>	<u>1</u>
		<u>4.25</u>

0307-25

Date

April 15, 1944

No. 28

Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers

RECEIVED FROM Olivia J. Stevens

Treas.

Hammond & Stevens Association Gales Creek County
Oregon
the sum of Three & 50/100 Dollars

Bulletins 10

Dollars

Dues for	<u>14</u>	members	- \$ <u>3.50</u>
President's Traveling Fund	- - -	\$	
Founders' Day	- - - - -	\$	
		- \$	
Total	- - -	\$ <u>3.50</u>	

Year ending March 31, 1944

141255 PACIFIC STATION & PRINTING CO. PORTLAND

Adel M. Landenick, State Treasurer

4-15-1944

4-25-1947

BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon. 3-18-1944

M *P. J. A. P. C.*
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		40
13		

2-18-1944

BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon. 4-11-1944

M *P. T. A.*
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		34

4-11-1944

BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon. 3-18-1944

M *P. J. A. P. C.*
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		40
13		

2-18-1944

BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon. 4-11-1944

M *P. T. A.*
No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		34
13		

1944



BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon, 194

M *8-14-1944*

No. _____

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1	NO Cuts	360	
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12	8		
13			

12- - 1944



BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon, 194

M *8-14-1944*

No. _____

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7	Credit	10	
8			
9			
10			
11			
12	40		
13			

1-9-1945



BRIGGS
MARKET & GROCERY
Meats - Groceries

Hammond, Oregon, 194

M *8-14-1944*

No. _____

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1	Cuts	37	
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	Clean	21	
7			
8			
9			
10	Cuts	14	
11			
12	34		
13			

2-14-1944

CAMERON MERCANTILE
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 1948

Sold to M

	Phone Warrenton 3243	Account Forward	
1			1.30
2			40
3			31
4			60
5			97
6			30
7			
8			4.00
9			
10			1.05
11	reduced 100		
12	of groceries returned		81.8
13			Subtotal
14			71.3
15	21		5.71
			10.64

SHEPARD SALES BOOK CO., PORTLAND, OREGON.

CAMERON MERCANTILE
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 1948

Sold to M

	Phone Warrenton 3243	Account Forward	
1			1.00
2	ice cream		85
3	1 lb. coffee		44
4			
5			1.44
6			Pd.
7			
8			A - per. H.
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			9
15			

SHEPARD SALES BOOK CO., PORTLAND, OREGON.

1948

CAMERON MERCANTILE
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., Oct. 1948

Sold to M

	Phone Warrenton 3243	Account Forward	
1	Launder		76
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15	27		

SHEPARD SALES BOOK CO., PORTLAND, OREGON.

1950

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 5/15/46 1946

M	No.	Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARD
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
				43

Your account stated to date. If error is found, return at once.

1946

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 5/16/46 1946

M	No.	Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARD
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
				18

Your account stated to date. If error is found, return at once.

1946

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 5/17/46 1946

M	No.	Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARD
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
				43

Your account stated to date. If error is found, return at once.

1946

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 5/18/46 1946

M	No.	Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARD
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
				18

Your account stated to date. If error is found, return at once.

1946

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 1946

M

No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARD
1	16	30
2		77
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
		45

Your account stated to date. If error is found, return at once.

1946

WE THANK YOU
for your patronage.
If there is anything not right
about this transaction, we
stand ready at any and all
times to make corrections
cheerfully.

SUNSET-MCREE CO. PORTLAND OAKLAND LOS ANGELES 92798

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 10-8-46 1946

M

No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		300
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
		7

9-20-1946

10-8-1946

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date

1947

M

No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1	Grease &	52	
2	Milk &	23	
3	Coffee &	14	
4	Milk &	23	
5		30	
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11	Milk	15	
12			
13		1.57	
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

2-11-1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date

1947

M

No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1	Coffee	21	
2		52	
3		53	
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13		9	
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

4-8-1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date

194

M

No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13		23	
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

3- - 1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date

194

M

No.

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1	Coffee	50	
2		15	
3		10	
4	Coffee	53	
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13		19	
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

4-24-1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 6/15/45 1945

M _____

No. 611

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1			<u>34</u>
2			<u>52</u>
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			<u>47</u>
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 7/13/45 1945

M _____

No. 611

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1			<u>44</u>
2			<u>47</u>
3			<u>47</u>
4			<u>47</u>
5			<u>47</u>
6			<u>47</u>
7			<u>47</u>
8			<u>47</u>
9			<u>47</u>
10			<u>47</u>
11			<u>47</u>
12			<u>47</u>
13			<u>47</u>
14			<u>47</u>
15			<u>47</u>

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 6/15/45 1945

M _____

No. 611

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

1947

E. A. STAUB'S MARKET & GROCERY
HAMMOND, OREGON

Date 7/13/45 1945

M _____

No. 611

Reg. No.	Clerk	ACCOUNT FORWARDED	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

Your account stated to date. If error is found return at once.

1946

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore. 12-14-1943

Sold to M	Phone	ACCOUNT FORWARD
	Warrenton 3243	
1	4 Candy Bars	16.75
2		
3	10 Apples	7.50
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14	34	
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

12-14-1943

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore. 12-14-1943

Sold to M	Phone	ACCOUNT FORWARD
	Warrenton 3243	1449
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	35	
14		
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

2-8-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore. 12-22-1943

Sold to M	Phone	ACCOUNT FORWARD
	Warrenton 3243	PT. C
1	Ribbons	1.00
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10	Candy Bars	5.00
11	Extra Apples	50
12		5.50
13		
14	22	
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

12-22-1943

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore. 12-22-1943

Sold to M	Phone	ACCOUNT FORWARD
	Warrenton 3243	95
1		
2	1449	
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	8	
14		
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

4-11-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 4-11 1944

Sold to M R. T. A.
Phone
Warrenton 3243

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	5	
14		
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

4-11-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 4-11 1944

Sold to M R. T. A.
Phone
Warrenton 3243

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	5	
14		
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

4-11-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 4-11 1944

Sold to M R. T. A.

Phone
Warrenton 3243

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	8	
14		
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

4-11-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 4-12 1944

Sold to M R. T. A.

Phone
Warrenton 3243

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	9	
14		
15		

REDIFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

4-12-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 12-12-1944

Sold to M *P.T.A.*

Phone

Warrenton 3243

ACCOUNT FORWARD

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	9	1.10
14		
15		

REDFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

12-12-1944

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 10-10-1945

Sold to M *P.T.A.*

Phone
Warrenton 3243

ACCOUNT FORWARD

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13	32	
14		
15		

REDFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

-10-1945

F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 15-15-1945

Sold to M *Schulz*

Phone
Warrenton 3243

ACCOUNT FORWARD

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REDFORM-PACIFIC MANIFOLDING BOOK CO., INC., PORTLAND, ORE. 1467

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F. O. PARSONS
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Hammond, Ore., 5-10-1945

Sold to M *P.T.A.*

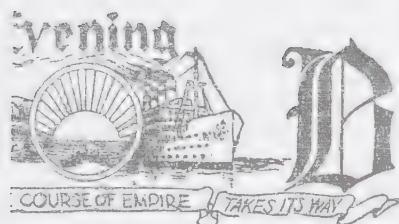
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Warrenton 3243

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5-10-1945



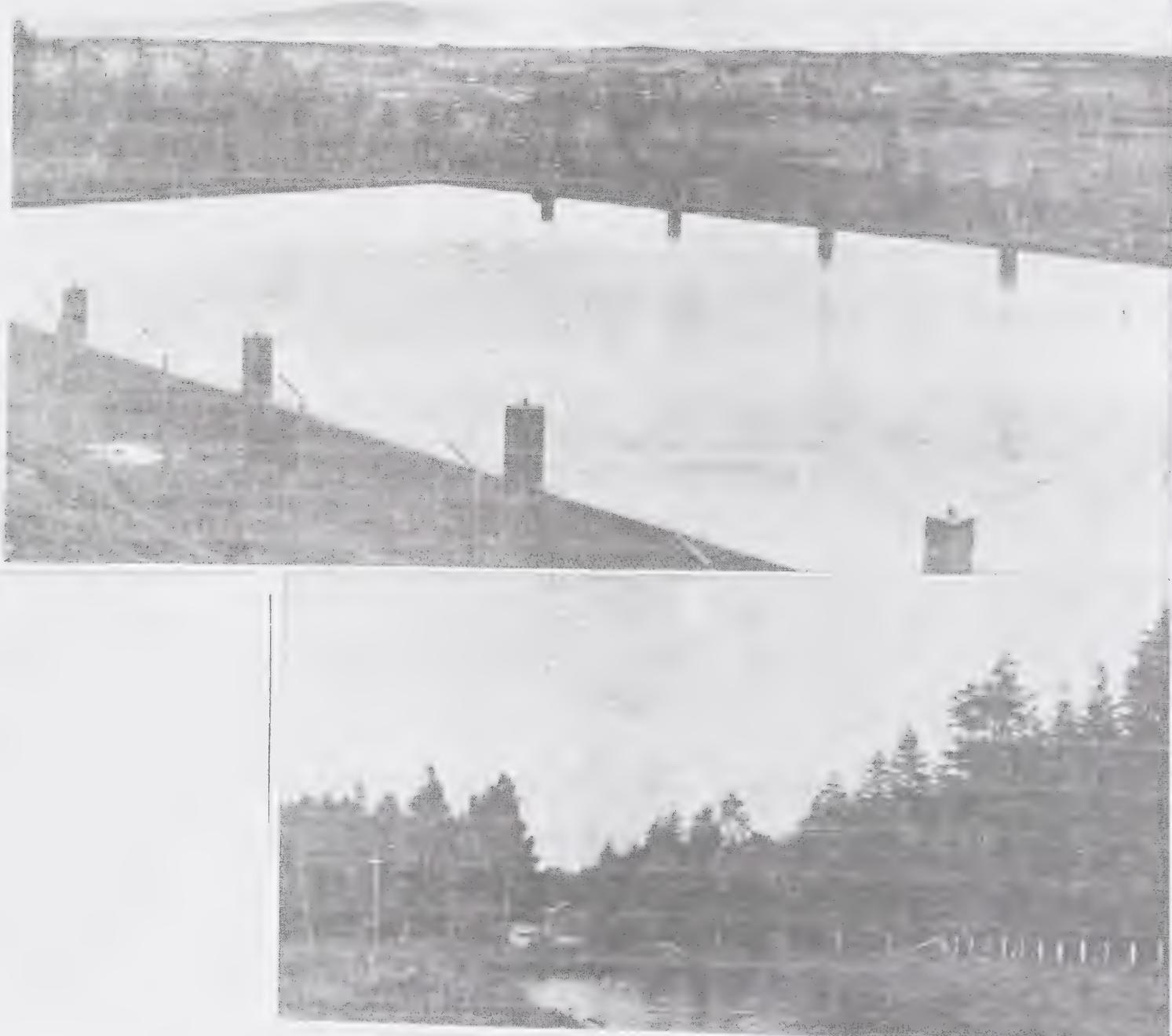
Budget

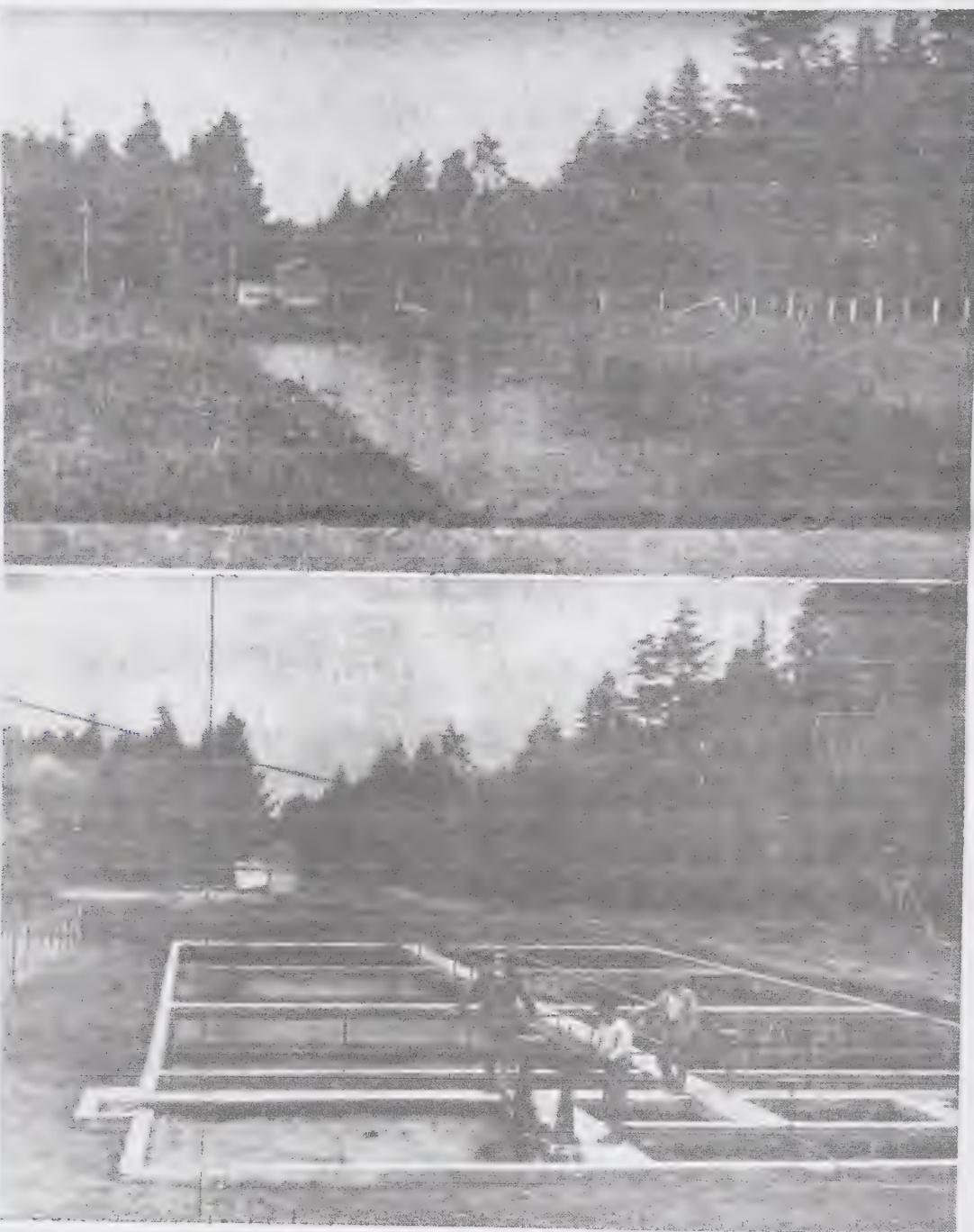
Saturday's Weather:
SHOWERS

11, November 6, 1953

PRICE 5c

Water on the Hills





Upper photo shows city of Warrenton's new 1.6 million gallon reservoir high on the hills above Clatsop Plains, which has just been put into service. Tillamook head is in the background. Center photo shows the settling basin of the Warrenton water system before it was rebuilt this year. The lower photo shows the new settling basin. In the picture are, from left, E. R. Baldwin, city manager; Leo Robichaud, water superintendent, and George W. Roberts, operator of the settling basin and chlorinating and lime treatment apparatus for the water supply. (Top and bottom photos by A-B, center photo from George W. Roberts)

Warrenton Completes First Reservoir for City System

CLATSOP PLAINS. (Special)—That which resembles a high stone wall upon the hill east of the Tagg place on Clatsop Plains and which has aroused the curiosity of many motorists, is a cyclone fence, built around the Warrenton water reservoir for sanitary purposes.

According to Warrenton City Manager E. R. Baldwin, it is designed to keep deer and children out of the recovery.

This reservoir was recently completed and has a capacity of 1.6 million gallons, and represents the first water reserve ever maintained by the Warrenton system.

The original system, built in 1917, consisted of wooden stave pipes.

Within the past four years, the city of Warrenton has replaced 10,000 feet of this pipe. The army replaced some in 1940, and more replacements will soon have to be made, according to Baldwin.

The original system was built by some 450 residents of Warrenton with a heavy bonded indebtedness.

When the original system was established and for many years after, the water superintendent received a wage of \$75 a month. Today he receives about \$400 a month. Then the price of pipe was about 75 cent a foot, as compared to today's price of \$4 a foot.

As replacement of pipes became necessary and wages increased, the system ceased to be self sustaining based on a flat rate of \$1.50 per month.

Recently, the flat rate to city consumers was increased to \$2.25, and last year all service outside the city was placed on a meter basis. Industries within the city

have been on meters for some time.

A new settling tank for the Warrenton system has just been completed, about three miles up the Wahanna road from Seaside, near the Crown-Zellerbach offices.

The new reservoir and the approximate 14 miles of main pipe line, and its various subsidiary lines, in addition to the numerous replacements, have all been established on a cash basis, according to Baldwin, and the system is expected to continue self supporting.

The Warrenton water system now serves the city, Clatsop Plains; Hammond, Gearhart and on a part time basis, augments the Youngs River-Lewis and Clark System.

Warrenton PO Receives Award for Beautification

A special "Citation of Merit" for cooperation in President Johnson's natural beauty program was presented Tuesday at 3 p.m. to Warrenton Postmaster Vergie Magnuson.

Postmaster Magnuson accepted the award on behalf of the citizens of Warrenton, Fred Hurlbutt, rural carrier; and Mrs. Jayne Ballman, who helped in the beautification effort.

J. S. Kerr, postal service officer, who represented Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien at the presentation ceremony, said: "Only those communities which have made a concerted effort to improve the appearance of their post offices are recipients of the award."

The citation was presented after the postal facility had received a superior rating in a rigid inspection by postal officials from regional headquarters and had been reviewed carefully by the assistant postmaster general for facilities, Kerr said.

President Johnson's natural beauty program is designed to improve the landscape of the nation. The Warrenton post office received the award as result of using pieces of driftwood obtained from ocean beaches, native shore pine, Scotch broom, and other shrubs, combined with odd-sized rocks to give a seashore atmosphere to the landscaping.

"The emphasis on aesthetics should make our post office a more pleasant place to visit and

do business," Postmaster Magnuson commented. "It should be emphasized that our project was begun to enhance the appearance of the area, and we hope that others in the community will be encouraged to make Warrenton more attractive."

DA NOV 26 1966



An arrangement of rocks, shrubbery and drift wood around the Warrenton post office, as shown here, won a citation of merit from the federal government. Postal service officer

J. S. Kerr, left, hands the certificate to Postmaster Vergie Magnuson, who accepted it on behalf of the community and urged further Warrenton beautification work.

Warrenton Firefighters of the Year honored



Richard Barber



Randy Dotson



Chris Penno



John Sleutel

Photos by Valerie Carlson

By Warrenton Fire Chief Ted Ames

On Saturday, Jan. 21, the Warrenton Volunteer Firefighters Association and the Warrenton Fire Department held their 9th Annual Banquet and Presentation.

This year's event was held at the Warrenton Community Center, and was very well attended by members and their families. The banquet was catered by Joyce Norris of Clatsop Catering and was excellent.

This year, we had three most distinguished guests in attendance. Warrenton City Manager Ed Madere and his wife, Sue, were treated to dinner and the evenings festivities. We are all most grateful for having Ed and Sue join us for the evening.

Our third guest, Chief Jeff Johnson, was also our speaker for the evening. Chief Johnson is the Fire Chief of Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue and is a nationally recognized speaker, as well as the Fire Chief of Oregon's largest Fire District. Chief Johnson gave an absolutely incredible talk on the value of volunteer firefighters, change in the fire service, and fire department customer service. We are truly honored to have had Jeff take time out of his busy life to come down and join us for the evening.

Each year, four awards are given to some very deserving members of the department. The four awards are the "Firefighter of the Year," "EMS Provider of the Year," the "Plug Ugly Award" (this award is given to someone who has made a funny, maybe less than desirable contribution throughout the year), and the "Chief's Award" which I award to the person I feel has given above and beyond the call of duty to the department and the community throughout the

2005 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR: CHRIS PENNO

2005 EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR: RICHARD BARBER

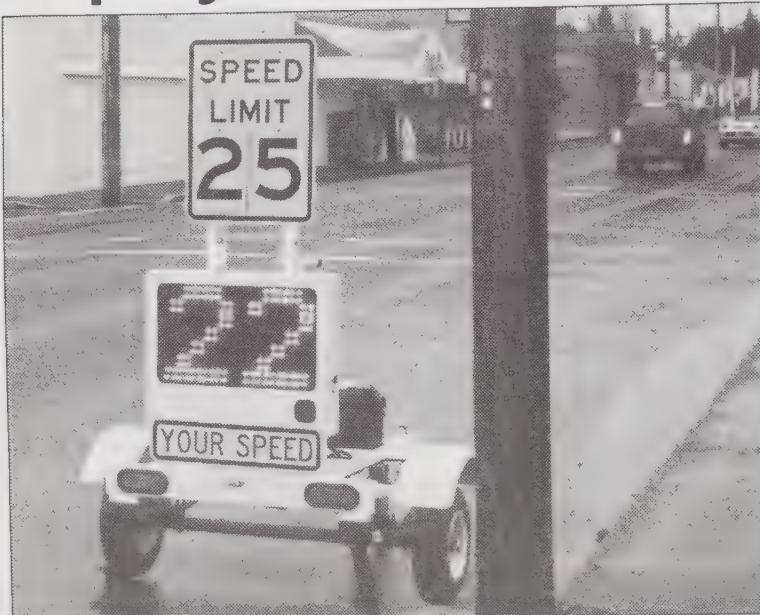
2005 PLUG UGLY AWARD: RANDY DOTSON

2005 CO-CHIEF'S AWARD: JOHN SLEUTEL AND RICHARD BARBER

preceding year.

With the exception of the Chief's Award, the above people were awarded these honors by their peers, and I am very proud of all of them. I am also extremely proud of each and every member of the Warrenton Fire Department for providing such excellent, compassionate, and professional service to the citizens of Warrenton, the Warrenton Rural Fire Protection District, and all of the tourists and visitors they come in contact with throughout each year. Our community is truly blessed to have such a dedicated and professional group of *volunteers* who are willing to deliver this most essential of services in such a cost effective and efficient manner.

Warrenton Police Department deploys new speed display trailer



On Feb. 10, 2009 the Warrenton Police Department deployed its newest traffic safety tool, a Kustom Signals, Inc. RU2 Fast 6000 speed display trailer.

The trailer was purchased using a \$4,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation and \$1,410 matching funds from the City of Warrenton with the approval of the City Commission.

The trailer is a self-contained unit consisting of a speed radar unit, a large LED display, and a changeable speed limit sign. The trailer displays the current speed of approaching vehicles and can be programmed to flash when the posted speed limit is exceeded.

Another feature of the trailer is the display can be programmed as a "directional arrow" warning approaching vehicles that they will need to move to the left or right. This feature will be useful in a variety of circumstances including traffic accidents, fire scenes, and utility work, to name a few.

The speed display trailer will be moved around the Warrenton and Hammond to areas with traffic speed and safety concerns in an effort to help remind motorists of posted speed limits and traffic hazards.

If you have an area of concern you can call Chief Mathew Workman at (503-861-2235) or email him at mworkman@ci.warrenton

.or.us. The department will make every effort to place the trailer in requested locations of concern.

The Warrenton Police Department and the City of Warrenton would like to thank the Oregon Department of Transportation for the generous grant making it possible to purchase the speed display trailer.

Local group forms to promote LNG plant in Warrenton area

Warrenton Area Business Owner Alliance sees LNG as a way out of economic disaster for coast

By Gary Nevan

Times are tough for many local businesses and bound to get tougher as the country staggers through a prolonged recession. The fishing and logging industries are struggling. Construction has stalled.

But a grassroot group of Warrenton business owners have been meeting recently to discuss ways to fuel the local economy. And the main, and possibly only, catalyst they see on the horizon is a liquefied natural gas plant in Warrenton.

Warrenton resident Ed Bussert is the leader of the group who call themselves the Warrenton Area Business Owners Alliance. Bussert, who is an unemployed car salesperson recently layed off due to the downturn in the auto industry, said he decided to start talking to local business owners to see how they were coping with the stagnant economy and also what their views were on an LNG facility in Warrenton. He also wanted to see if the businesses were willing to meet and discuss ways to jumpstart the local economy.

"Across the board there have been positive reactions by nearly all the businesses I contacted," Bussert said. "Many local businesses are hurting. Some are saying they don't know if they will be in business in six months. It's that bad out there. Many see having an LNG plant here will help our local economy, get people employed and create spin-off businesses and jobs. It could be the engine to drive our entire county."

The group started meeting about a month ago and now numbers 60 businesses representing over 1,000 employees, Bussert said.

"Not all of the business owners are pro-LNG, but all feel we need to be looking for ways to help ourselves," he said. "Tourism doesn't create family-wage jobs. It seems like the people who are opposed to LNG want to keep this area as a tourist area. It's tough to survive on tourism."

Bussert, who was a volunteer firefighter for 15 years and is currently a reserve police officer for Warrenton, said the tax dollars received from an LNG facility would help solve many of the public safety funding issues the City of Warrenton has been struggling with lately.

"Oregon LNG plans on spending \$1.3 billion on the facility in Warrenton," he said. "They will pay \$9

2-6-2009

Continued on page 3

Local group supports LNG

Continued from page 1

million in taxes annually with \$1 million going to the City of Warrenton. The first four years of construction will see 500 jobs created. There will be between 60-75 full-time family-wage jobs created. That's a substantial economic impact on our area."

Bussert said a main goal of the group is to let elected officials know that many local individuals and business owners support having an LNG plant in Warrenton.

"I know the Warrenton City Commission supports the LNG facility here, but State Representative Deborah Boone and State Senator Betsy Johnson have voiced opposition to it," Bussert said. "They need to know many people do support it. We'd welcome them to attend one of our

meetings and say why they are opposed to it and what alternatives they have in mind to save our local economy."

Bussert said he is not being paid by Oregon LNG to promote their operation in Warrenton.

"Prior to a month ago, I wasn't on the LNG bandwagon at all," he said. "But we're not going to have a town as we've known it if things keep getting worse. We need to take a serious look at something that could help our area. As long as all the safety standards are met then let's make it happen. There's nothing else on the horizon."

Bussert said anyone interested in attending a meeting of the Warrenton Area Business Owners Alliance can contact him at 503-298-3558.

"Making a difference through excellence of service."



CITY OF WARRENTON

Robert L. Maxfield

City Manager

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rmaxfield@ci.warrenton.or.us

WARRENTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



TED AMES

Fire Chief

E-mail: firechief@ci.warrenton.or.us

P.O. BOX 250

WARRENTON, OR 97146

PHONE: 503-861-2494

FAX: 503-861-2351

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CITY OF WARRENTON

Linda Engbretson

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JOHN SHEPHERD, JR.

Captain, Training Officer

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Mathew J. Workman
Chief of Police

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CITY OF WARRENTON

Carol Parker
Planning Director

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WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Kathi Smith
Municipal Court Clerk/
Police Secretary

May 2009

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Pamela Alegria
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Chuck Goodwin
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Marc Howatt
Public Works Director

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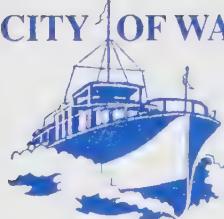
CITY OF WARRENTON

Craig Walter
Public Works Foreman

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CITY OF WARRENTON MARINAS



KEITH V. PINKSTAFF
HARBORMASTER

WARRENTON harbormaster@ci.warrenton.or.us
(503) 861-3822

VHF Channel 16

HAMMOND
(503) 861-3197



Resource
Assistance
for Rural
Environments

Stephanie Scafà
Trails Coordinator
City of Warrenton, Port of Astoria

225 South Main Avenue
PO Box 250
Warrenton, OR 97146

Voice: (503) 861-2233 Fax: (503) 861-2351
email: trails@ci.warrenton.or.us

OR Water Treatment
Certification #T-6382

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CITY OF WARRENTON

Robert L. Bingham

Water Treatment Facility Superintendent

Water Plant
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Water Quality
Technician

May 2009



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Teri Smith

Cashier/Accounting Clerk

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Kirsten Ayles

Utility Billing/Accounts Payable Clerk

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"Making a difference through excellence of service"

CITY OF WARRENTON

Janice Weese
Building Clerk

May 2009

Warrenton man engineers his way back to a hometown position



SANDRA SWAIN — The Daily Astorian
Warrenton Public Works Director Marc Howatt's office in a yellow metal building across the street from City Hall is crowded with maps, papers, old wooden furniture and a big metal file cabinet.

Warrenton's new public works director Marc Howatt is the right man at the right time in the right place.

"I enjoy public service," Howatt said, "and there are lots of projects underway here. Warrenton's booming."

Howatt's most recent previous job was in Gresham, but he's a North Coast native, born in Seaside and raised in Warrenton. He attended Warrenton Grade School and graduated from Warrenton High School.

Howatt, 37, knew he wanted to get involved in some kind of public service after he finished a four-year stint in the U.S. Air Force. He was fresh out of high school when he enlisted, intending to earn money for college. Assigned to a civil engineering squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana, Howatt learned to operate heavy equipment and did a lot surveying and road construction. True to his plan, he attended Boise State University for three years.

The next stop for Howatt, by then married and the father of a new baby, was working on a road project in Alaska's Tongass National Forest. Then it was back to the "lower 48," and

a job as an engineering technician in Sweet Home, where he began his career in city government. "I got my feet wet there," he said. He spent five years there, then three years in West Linn, before going to work for the city of Gresham at the associate engineering level.

Howatt said the experience he gained in Gresham as a plans-examiner for public

improvements such as city streets, stormwater treatment quality control and subdivision infrastructure was valuable preparation for his present job as director. He said he also became familiar with state and federal agencies and their requirements, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of State Lands, which play a big role in Warrenton with its extensive wetlands, miles of dikes and 24 tide

gates. "We're surrounded by water," Howatt said.

Challenges lie ahead as the city adjusts its infrastructure to accommodate large commercial developments like Home Depot and the new homes springing up by the dozens in big subdivisions. They all need water and sewer service, roads and sidewalks. Warrenton's water

treatment facility and wastewater treatment plant are big responsibilities. Aging pipes and streets full of pot holes must be repaired, maintained and sometimes replaced.

Howatt hopes a construction inspector or engineering technician can be hired to work part-time. The city is already advertising for a public works department maintenance foreman.

When he's not working, Howatt enjoys fly-fishing on the McKenzie and Willamette rivers. He also likes to spend time with his family, who are still in Portland while they try to sell their house. Camping trips with his wife and children are high on his list of activities. And then there's his favorite sport. "I love rugby," Howatt said. He took up the hard-hitting sport while he was in the military and later played on teams in Portland. He stopped playing about three years ago, but is still a big fan.

All in all, Howatt is glad he came back to his home town. As an employee in a larger city like Gresham, a person can be "kind of a number," he said, but in a smaller place like Warrenton, it's easy to build good working relationships. "I wanted to come back to this area," Howatt said. "I like the small town atmosphere."

— Sandra Swain

Everyday people

Getting to know your neighbors. Hear the audio on the Web at www.dailyastorian.com



Warrenton Fire Department

2010

225 S. MAIN STREET | WARRENTON, OREGON 97146 | (503) 861-1779

PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT BACK ROW:

EMT-Basic Krista Bingham Firefighter - 5 years, Firefighter/EMT-Basic Derek Daugherty - 2 months, Firefighter/EMT-Basic Kevin Dugan - 3 years, Firefighter Russ Baughman - 7 months, Firefighter/EMT-Basic Steven Zamora - 5 years, Lieutenant/EMT-Basic Brian Alsbury - 3 years, Firefighter/First Responder Nick Tucker - 3 years, Fire Chief/EMT-Intermediate Ted Ames - 27 years, Firefighter Sam Normand - 6 years, Firefighter/First Responder James Blackburn - 4 years, Firefighter/First Responder Nick Schaffer - 5 years, Captain/First Responder Willie Nyberg - 28 years, Firefighter/First Responder Jim Zile - 1 ½ years, Firefighter/EMT-Basic David Yuill - 5 years

KNEELING:

Lieutenant/EMT-Basic Chris Penno - 8 years, Firefighter/EMT-Basic Scott Watson - 18 years, Firefighter Brandon Williams - 1 ½ years, Firefighter/First Responder John Sleutel - 21 years, Firefighter/First Responder Justin Baughman - 6 years, Captain/EMT-Basic John Shepherd - 33 years, Firefighter/First Responder Korey Olson - 5 years, Firefighter Sean Ball - 10 months, Firefighter Bruce Spencer - 10 months, Firefighter Sonny Bruney - 4 years, Captain/First Responder Mike Stein - 11 years, Entry Level Recruit Kayla Baughman - 1 month (Seated in the Engine)

NOT PICTURED:

Lieutenant/EMT-Basic Richard Barber - 10 years, Lieutenant/EMT-Paramedic Jon Brown - 17 years, Firefighter/EMT-Basic Robert Burk - 5 years, Firefighter Flint Carlson - 30 years, Firefighter/First Responder Jason Davis - 12 years, Firefighter/First Responder Glen Ely - 10 years, Firefighter/First Responder Michael Leach - 2 years, Firefighter/EMT-Basic Chris Parrish - 1 ½ years, Firefighter/First Responder Kevin Posalski - 10 months, Firefighter/First Responder Brandon Stallsworth - 2 years

‘Carruthers Park is not being traded for anything’

Warrenton officials say they have no plans to sell park

By TYLER GRAF
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Warrenton city officials say they have no plans to sell a popular city park to a private business.

The guarantee came amid speculation that city officials were in talks with Warrenton LLC, which owns Warrenton Fiber, to sell Eben H. Carruthers Memorial Park to the company or hand it over as a result of a land swap.

Jim Scheller, president of the Warrenton Trails Association, broached

the subject at a Monday afternoon meeting of Warrenton’s Parks Advisory Board.

In an email to city officials presented at the meeting, Scheller wrote that it was “very concerning that it appears the city is involved in negotiating under the radar ... to consider such a land swap.”

City Manager Kurt Fritsch said he was caught off guard by the line of questioning, adding that members of the city’s Parks Advisory Board would not be knowledgeable of the city’s discussions.

“Carruthers Park is not being trad-

ed for anything,” Fritsch said.

He said there had been talks with Warrenton LLC about the property on which its chip manufacturer is located. The company leases the property, which is adjacent to Carruthers Park.

“That is not a park,” Fritsch said, as a point of clarification.

In a telephone interview, Warrenton Mayor Dick Hellberg said the city would never sell the park because it acts as buffer to Warrenton’s residential areas to the west and ‘what’s left to the industrial area to the east.

“I think the public would strangle us if we did,” he said.

The land was donated to the city with the stipulation that it remain a park.

Still, the city’s confirmation raises

concerns, Scheller said.

His organization wants to finish a series of trails looping around near Warrenton Fiber’s facility. The company has not been receptive to these plans, he said.

He said the Trails Association sought a significant grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department last year to complete the project, but it was stalled.

Other concerns, he said, relate to a private port that’s located on the property, which he believes could be turned into a landing for a coal or liquefied natural gas export facility under private ownership.

FP-DA

See PARK, Page 10

3-13-2012

Park: Details under wraps

Continued from Page 1

He said he was happy with the city’s response to his question, but said further closed-door meetings would only breed more speculation.

“That’s the real problem with doing things under the radar,” he said.

Details of what has been discussed between the city and Warrenton Fiber remain under wraps. Under Oregon law, jurisdictions may discuss potential real estate transactions in executive sessions, which are closed to the public and cannot be reported.

Candidates for Warrenton City Commission

10-15-2010



**Gil Gramson
Position 4**

Mayor Gil Gramson is running for his third term on the Warrenton City Commission. He has been appointed Warrenton's mayor for the last six years. Gramson was Warrenton City Manager from 1975 to 2000.

1. Why are you running for city commission?

"The last six years we have developed a number of plans including the Urban Renewal District, Parks Master Plan, Warrenton Trails and the downtown and marina development. I want to see these projects through to completion. I feel that I bring a lot of knowledge about the city both institutional and historical that is valuable to keep the city moving in the right direction.

2. If re-elected, what will be your top goals?

"Urban renewal and downtown development. We have a downtown development plan in place and we should be going out for proposals this winter to start some of the project. It became very clear to me years ago that we needed to do something about our downtown and our marinas. Now that we have the Urban Renewal District financing in place we can finally get going on these projects.

I am also concerned about our street improvements. I'm disappointed we didn't get any

improvements done this summer. Now that we have a project engineer for the city, Jim Rankin, and a new public works director, we should be able to get street improvement projects started next spring and summer.

3. How do you propose the city will pay for future public safety needs as the city grows both commercially and residentially?

"In the last year, we were able to secure permanent financing for the fire training officer. We were also able to use other city revenues to hire a third firefighter. We will need to use city resources from new development to help pay for some public safety needs. We could also have to include a local option tax levy in the future if we don't have enough growth from development. In the next four years I see a need for a criminal investigator/detective for the police department. Our top priority will be for the police and fire departments.

4. What is your position on a liquefied natural gas facility being located in Warrenton on the Skipanon Peninsula?

"About five or six years ago, the city commission wrote up a list of at least ten conditions that any LNG development would have to meet before we would allow one in Warrenton. Until they show me that they've met those conditions, I won't support it. There's no doubt that an LNG plant in Warrenton would bring in hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax revenue to the city. We would have to carefully weigh that benefit versus the downside which could be environmental, dredging concerns, safety, and the disruption of normal activities in the city.

5. Any closing thoughts on why voters should re-elect you to the city commission?

"Our taxes are extremely low in Warrenton. Other cities in the county are paying a third to a half more for city services. We have a solid city commission that works very well together. We have a good, dedicated professional staff at city hall. We have a planning commission that works great together and we have wonderful volunteers. Without them, the city would be in trouble.

The biggest role I have in the city is that I will listen to the people. I recently met with representatives from the senior mealsite who had concerns about the community center needing repairs. Those concerns are now being addressed. I urge people to come to my Coffee with the Mayor on Monday mornings at city hall. People are welcome to talk about anything. It's an opportunity for them to voice their opinions or ask questions about city business."

Gramson and Baldwin run for position 4, Hellberg unopposed



**Dick Hellberg
Position 5**

Dick Hellberg is a commercial fisherman. He is currently serving his second term on the Warrenton City Commission. He is running unopposed in the Nov. 2 election.

1. Why are you running for city commission?

"I think we have many good things happening in Warrenton. We're showing good progress and I want to see the projects we're working on completed.

I'm very concerned about the Warrenton and Hammond Boat Basins. I would like to see the city take control of the Hammond Boat Basin and keep it the way it has been. Hopefully, that will happen. It's an excellent location."

2. If elected, what will be your top goals?

"I want to continue making progress on the projects we've started. City streets, the mooring basins and Urban Renewal."

3. How do you propose the city will pay for future public safety needs as the city grows both commercially and residentially?

"The only way is for the city to increase in tax evaluation. I don't think the community will float a bond measure. Taxes from big developments will

have to pay for these needs. Some of the big box stores are in our Urban Renewal but Walmart wouldn't be and we'd be able to use some of that money to help fund some of our public safety needs. An LNG plant would buy some of the needed equipment for the fire department. We have a need for at least one more police officer and one more firefighter. I think that the commercial developments should cough up some funds for those positions. Before we do anything, we have to be able to afford it."

4. What is your position on a liquefied natural gas facility being located in Warrenton on the Skipanon Peninsula?

"I have a degree in science and I've worked a lot in chemistry. Most of the opposition I hear about LNG is pure nonsense. I've visited LNG plants in the Boston area and didn't see any problems. The project would generate \$500 to \$600 million dollars and that means a lot of tax dollars for the City of Warrenton. It would take a lot of big box stores to make up for that revenue. An LNG plant would also help fund additional public safety equipment and provide overtime for our police and fire

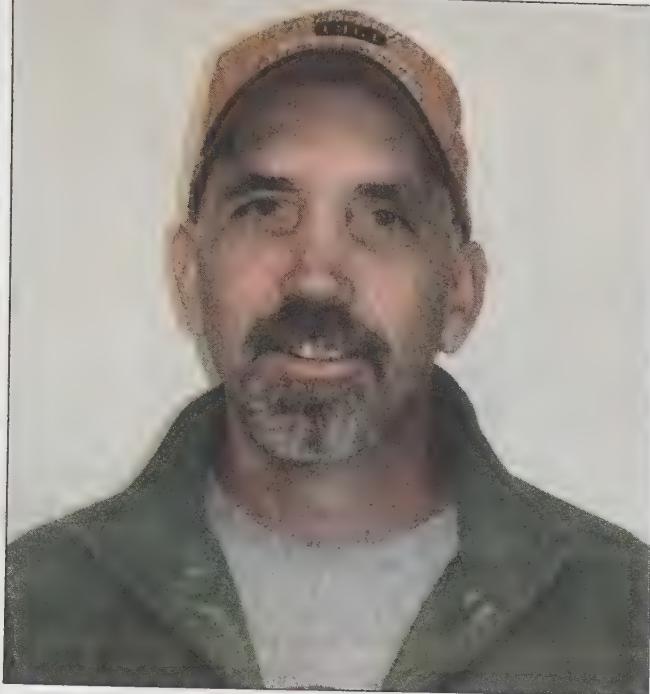
departments.

It would also generate many spin-off jobs. A freezer plant could be built, for instance, using the LNG cooling system. There are many possibilities for additional job creation.

However, if an LNG plant would in anyway infringe on passage on the Skipanon River, I would oppose it."

5. Any closing thoughts on why voters should elect you to the city commission?

"I've been here a long time. I understand what Warrenton is and how the residents would like it to be. I really care about this community. It's been good to me and my family. And I'd like to see it become even more successful."



Mark Baldwin Position 4

Mark Baldwin is a lifelong resident of Warrenton. He works as a licensed general contractor.

1. Why are you running for city commission?

"Since a year after I was born, Gil Gramson has run the City of Warrenton. And not necessarily like the people of Warrenton would like it to be run, but as a small group of people would like it to be run. I just don't feel that we have five separate voices on the city commission. If you check on everybody's background, there's a huge connection to a lot of them.

I've lived here my whole life. I don't have any ill will toward anyone on the commission. I think Gil has done some good things for the city. But I think he is more or less running the city instead of the city manager running the city. The mayor should be available to help, not dictate."

2. If elected, what will be your top goals?

"There's a half million dollars in gas tax money sitting in a fund but nothing has been done this summer to fix our roads. We have a lot of main streets in Warrenton that need major repairs done. The community center needs repairs. There's a lot of it rotting. We need to take care of our storm drainage. It's a huge issue in our city and it's not

being taken care of. If we can't do it ourselves, then we need to contract it out. There are people with property sitting four inches under water because the drain ditches haven't been maintained.

I think we need to take better care of our parks. I see all the effort that went into the dog park and I rarely see anyone there. Warrenton City Park has had nothing done to it for years. I've been all over the northwest going to a lot of ball parks and ours are horrible compared to what I've seen. They need a lot of work. We get a lot of vandalism at our parks and that needs to stop.

3. How do you propose the city will pay for future public safety needs as the city grows both commercially and residentially?

"We need to start planning now and we should have been planning years ago when we knew we would be growing. If there are any development

fees that can go toward public safety, then we need to get those going now.

4. What is your position on a liquefied natural gas facility being located in Warrenton on the Skipanon Peninsula?

"My first thought is that I would hate to see anything that creates jobs and taxes be pushed away. We need jobs. The mill shut down and there are a lot of people struggling in this town. I realize that there are quite a few people who don't want LNG here. I don't really know if it's good or bad. I would be surprised to see it happen in Warrenton. I would have to take a long hard look at it. There's a lot that we don't know about that is being kept behind the scene.

5. Any closing thoughts on why voters should elect you to the city commission?

"I have nothing personally to gain by being on the city commission. I have no personal agenda. I strongly feel that commissioners shouldn't have personal agendas. They are there to represent the people of Warrenton.

I also think that if someone wants to know something about city business, it should be made public. There shouldn't be anything to hide. I don't like all the back door dealing that has taken place. Issues should be out in the open.

Warrenton OKs project despite bidding snag

City rejects lowest bid because of an incomplete application

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The city of Warrenton's DeLaura Beach waterline project is just getting started, but it's already hit a bump in the road.

The project would provide city service and utilities to the community between Ridge Road and Southwest Pine Court, a goal on the commission's list for this year.

On Tuesday night's agenda, that goal took a step forward. But it wasn't a smooth one.

The city commission was expected to award the bid to Ken Leahy Construction, of Hillsboro, and it did. But not before a local company protested that decision.

The complaint came from Pacific Timber, whose bid had an incomplete addendum, an attachment submitted when a contractor bids on a project that lists exhibits, volumes, prices and other specifics.

"The issue is they didn't address the addendum," City Manager Kurt Fritsch said. "So assumptions had to be made on our part as to what their bid was, whether it truly was the low bid or not."

Pacific Timber had the lowest bid on the project. The city is supposed to accept the lowest bid.

But Pacific Timber left too many unanswered questions on its application, not filling in their bid with the correct schedule of contract prices, city leaders heard.

"As far as the addendum is concerned, it required us to plug the numbers in and assume what their bid was," said Fritsch.

"And the other bids had this all spelled out?" Mayor Dick Hellberg asked.

"Correct," Fritsch responded.

Pacific Timber's general manager Mike Sarin says it was an honest mistake — an old form was accidentally used.

"Protesting, this type of thing, isn't something we do. We don't typically do it, but we don't take it lightly either," he said.

"The city manager said we failed to acknowledge the addendum which isn't correct. We did acknowledge the addendum, there's a special form for that you've got to fill out. We acknowledged the addendum. But what happened was we mistakenly used (the old form) that came with the addendum. The line items are all the same, the volumes are different.

5-9-2012

See WARRENTON, Page 11

"So if you apply our unit prices to the correct measures, we're still the low bid. That is what we would consider a minor informality."

Attorney Courtney Lords, of Beery Elsner and Hammond LLP in Portland, was consulted by the commission and spoke on the speaker phone to discuss the city's options vs. obligations. Lords' focus is on urban renewal and economic development matters and the general practice of municipal law, according to the law practice's website.

"Basically, your hands aren't tied either way," she said, cautioning the commission against calculating or changing anyone's bid that could — and probably would — lead to other protests from other contractors.

"They would have every right to do that," she said.

The city also has the option to not dismiss the bid if they deem it "minor informality" rather than a "material mistake." Sarin asked the city to do that, but the commission voted against it, following staff recommendation to reject the bid.

"It's at the city's discretion of what's considered a minor informality," Sarin said. "The other part of it is it's still a low bid, so there's extra money involved to go with the second-place bidder. Also, we're local. The second-place bidder — you're basically taking this from a local contractor and giving it to an out-of-town contractor. Now, they're a good contractor. They do a good job, but I think that that's important here."

Leahy and Pacific Timber were two of the 10 bids for the project, of which only eight were considered. The other two, including Pacific Timber, were rejected as unresponsive.

But not every commissioner felt that was the right thing to do. The city has the option but is not required to allow an incomplete bid to be completed.

They also have the option of putting the project back out to bid. But that pushes the project out of this budget cycle, Public Works Director Don Snyder said.

Commissioner Frank Orrell and Hellberg were both leaning heavily towards that option, until they were told the project would possibly not be completed in this calendar year.

Commissioner Mark Baldwin recused himself before the conversation started, citing a conflict of interest.

Orrell said "reluctantly, yes," when his vote was asked for.

But Commissioner Mark Kujala stood by his guns.

"I feel like too often we get put in this uncomfortable position where we've got two bids and there's corrections that need to be made, value judgements that I don't feel comfortable doing," Kujala said. "I would rather go out and rebid the project. That's my feeling about it. I know that that delays, and I hate to see things get delayed, but we've done this several times and it's frustrating.

"I would rather go out and bid the project."

But Commissioner Terry Ferguson disagreed.

"We are going to have all of these bidders protesting it and that's going to slow it down," Ferguson said before voting in favor of awarding the bid to Leahy. "Now, you're already in the next year. You might as well just cancel it out and do it next summer if you put it out to bid again. Don't we have nine bidders? Eight or nine? I'm sure they'll all protest if that's what we're going to do. A responsive bid is a responsive bid. And a nonresponsive bid is a nonresponsive bid. It's black and white."

With Kujala as the only vote that supported rebidding the project, the bid was dismissed as unresponsive by Hellberg, Orrell and Ferguson, making the lowest bidder Leahy, in the amount of \$187,356.

In other city news:

- The Warrenton Business Association recognized Manfred Beil of Manfred's Clock Repair, Jacob Humphries of Clatsop Computer Solutions, Inc., and Thomas and Susan DeGandi of 346 South Main Ave. for the Warrenton Community Pride Awards.

- The city accepted a grant on behalf of the Hammond Marina from the State Marine Board in the amount of \$250,000 to pave the marina's parking lot. The city will be diligent in planning for possible utilities and lighting in the area to make sure they are not cutting through the pavement once it is in place, Fritsch said.

• The city approved an ordinance imposing system development charges for growth.

May 9
2012

Warrenton: Attorney says don't change bid

Warrenton Fire Department has busiest year in 2010

By Warrenton Fire Chief Ted Ames

December 2010 was a very busy month for your fire department. We answered 83 individual 911 calls for service. Somehow we also found time to put together over 240 Christmas food boxes for those who were in desperate need during the holiday season. Again this year, a large number of folks were able to pick up their boxes at the fire station. However, close to 90 needed to be delivered by members of the department. There is currently no other organization in Warrenton with the ability to provide this type of service other than your volunteer firefighters. Once again this year, the tremendous amount of support and assistance from the community was beyond our wildest dreams. We would not have been able to accomplish this project without the help we received from the many individuals and businesses in and around our community, and we sincerely thank everyone who was able to assist with this year's effort.

When one understands exactly what is asked of our volunteer firefighters with emergency response, training and special projects like the Christmas food drive, the 4th of July celebration and many others throughout the year, I am convinced beyond any doubt that Warrenton is blessed with the very best, and most dedicated volunteer firefighters in the State of Oregon. I wish that each of you had been able to stop by during the afternoon or evening of the 22nd to witness the dedication and hard work our volunteers, family members and friends put into the Christmas food drive this year. Please take the time to personally thank these people when you have the chance because they are truly the very best the City of Warrenton has to offer. Collectively, they achieve many amazing accomplishments throughout each year and deserve your special recognition.

2010 was the busiest year on record for your fire department. The following statistics are a "first look" at response and training activities for the year. A more formal and in-depth Year End Summary and Annual Report will be forth coming within the next month or so.

2010 Total Calls for Service:833
2010 EMS Response:569
2010 Fire Response:29
2010 Motor Vehicle Crashes:72
2010 Service Calls:163

An average of eight volunteers responded per call throughout calendar year 2010 accumulating over 3,300 man hours of service to the City.

2010 Regular Wednesday Evening

Training Sessions:52

2010 Alternate / Special Drills or

Training Sessions:15

An average of 26 volunteers attended regular Wednesday evening training sessions throughout calendar year 2010 accumulating over 4,000 man hours that were devoted to learning and maintaining skills proficiency.



As mentioned above, a more thorough and in-depth annual report will be produced for your information and to allow more informed decision making regarding future fire department issues and concerns.

In closing, I would like to recognize the following people:

Brian Alsbury
Wryan Anderson
Matthew Ball
Sean Ball
Richard Barber
Justin Baughman
Kayla Baughman
Russ Baughman
Krista Bingham
James Blackburn
Jon Brown
Sonny Bruney
Robert Burk
Flint Carlson
Derek Daugherty
Jason Davis
Kevin Dugan
Glen Ely
Lori Hackwith
Mark Heussner

James Lee
Sam Normand
Willie Nyberg
Korey Olson
Chris Parrish
Chris Penno
Kevin Posalski
Nick Schaffer
John Shepherd Jr.
John Sleutel
Bruce Spencer
Brandon Stallsworth
Mike Stein
Nick Tucker
Scott Watson
Paul Wickliffe
Brandon Williams
David Yuill
Steven Zamora
Jim Zile

These are the professional men and women who served the City of Warrenton as members of the Warrenton Fire Department throughout 2010. Some have retired, moved away, been transferred or gone off to college. Some have

just recently started their six month training period, but all have made tremendous sacrifices and dedicated countless hours to training, emergency response and fulfilling the Mission of the Warrenton Fire Department: "To Safely and Professionally Serve the Community of Warrenton through Life Safety, Property Protection and Education."

I deeply appreciate each and every one of these people and have the utmost in admiration for their dedication and commitment to the department, the community and to providing consistent, timely, efficient and compassionate service to all they come in contact with. I sincerely thank each and every one of these people from the bottom of my heart.

(I'll let you in on a little secret; these people make my job very easy; they give me a continued reason to be excited about coming to work each day because to be quite honest, I get to work for them. They are my real bosses. Sorry, Bob!)

The public is invited to view the draft master plan update for the North Coast Business Park and offer input on the document at an open house on February 7.

See page 12 for full story.

9.16.2011

COLUMBIA PRESS



Warrenton firefighters were called out at 9:32 a.m. Wednesday morning to extinguish a fire that started in the city's garbage truck at the corner of N.W. Warrenton Drive and S.W. Alder Avenue. Fire Chief Ted Ames said he was unsure how the fire started. The last pickup stop for the truck was at the Hammond Marina. He said the truck was damaged but was driveable. (Photo by Gary Nevan)

Kurt Fritsch takes over as Warrenton's new city manager

Warrenton hires new city manager

Kurt Fritsch of McCook, Nebraska, has been chosen as the next city manager of Warrenton.

Fritsch will replace current city manager Bob Maxfield who has announced he will retire by the end of June.

Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala said the city commission was unanimous in selecting Fritsch, who is currently the city manager of McCook.

"Kurt has good experience as a city manager that we valued and I think he will be a good fit for us," he said.

Kujala said the commission appreciated the efforts of a citizen committee appointed to assist in the selection process. The members included former Warrenton Mayor Barbara Balensifer, Warrenton-Hammond School Board Chair Debbie Morrow, June Spence, Monica Scroup, Pat O'Grady, Bob Bridgens and Joe Bruney.

Kritsch will start work on June 27. He will receive an annual salary of \$95,000.

2011



By Gary Nevan

Warrenton's new city manager, Kurt Fritsch, started work June 27 and said that moving back to the Northwest is a bit of a homecoming for him.

"I was born in Longview, Washington, graduated high school there, and always thought I would one day come back to the Northwest," he said. "I wasn't unhappy where I was but I felt it was time for me to return to this area."

As a child, he remembers taking grade school field trips to the coast from Longview.

"I've always really liked this area, it's so beautiful here," he said.

Fritsch takes over for former city manager Bob Maxfield who retired June 30 and has moved to Vancouver, B.C.

Fritsch had been the city manager of McCook, Nebraska, since September 2006. He previously was city manager of North Las Vegas, Nevada, assistant city manager of Henderson, Nevada, and deputy director of the Colorado River Commission of Nevada. He also served in a staff position in Austin, Texas, and as an urban planner in Olympia, Washington.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Western Washington University in Bellingham and was a Master of Arts candidate at the University of Texas as well as attending the prestigious Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

Fritsch said he was attracted to Warrenton because of its small town qualities and also its challenges as a growing city.

"I see many positive things happening here," he said. "I'm really looking forward to getting to know the community. I have appreciated all of the input from the community and the city commission. Warrenton has a lot going for it and I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of its future."

7.1.2011

5-21-2012



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5-22-2012





Nate McBride - John Wilson

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Nate McBride





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True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost.

—Arthur Ashe



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*A hero is someone
who has given his or her life
to something bigger
than oneself.
—Joseph Campbell—*

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to order men into battle.
It takes a hero to be one of those
men who goes into battle.
—Norman Schwarzkopf—*

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*For love of country
they accepted death...
—James A. Garfield—*



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A photograph of a cemetery or memorial site featuring a large field of white crosses standing in rows on a green grassy hill. The sky above is filled with soft, white and grey clouds.

May 28, 2012

MEMORIAL DAY

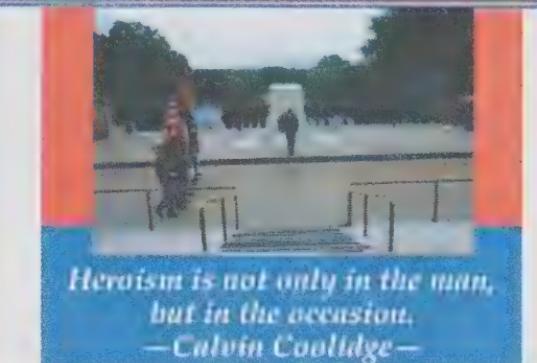
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And each man stand
with his face in the light
of his own drawn sword.
Ready to do what a hero can.
—Elizabeth Barrett Browning



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When a brave man
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the spines of others
are often stiffened.**
—Billy Graham

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City Manager

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CITY OF WARRENTON

Dick Hellberg

Mayor

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Vice-Chair

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Finance Director

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April Clark
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CITY OF WARRENTON

Teri Smith
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9-14-2012

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CITY OF WARRENTON

Ric Vrana
GIS Coordinator

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Jim Byerley
Building Official

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Janice Weese
Building Clerk

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CITY OF WARRENTON

Skip Urling
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"Making a difference through excellence of service."



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9-24-2012



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TED AMES

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CITY OF WARRENTON

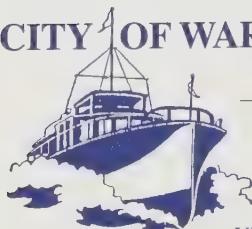
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Mathew J. Workman
Chief of Police

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Kathi Smith
Municipal Court Clerk/
Police Secretary

“Making a difference through excellence of service”



CITY OF WARRENTON

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Warrenton Community Library

CITY OF WARRENTON

Nettie-Lee Calog
Site Manager

Library Site:
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Hammond, OR 97121
503-861-3919

nlcwcl@yahoo.com

City of Warrenton:

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Warrenton, OR 97146-0250
503-861-2233

9-24-2012

Warrenton mayor takes on visitor over Cullaby fish

Watershed Council coordinator offers details to city leaders

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The mayor of Warrenton squared off Tuesday night with a member of the Skipanon Watershed Council about the potential of fish in Cullaby Lake.

The council has plans for the presence of fish in Cullaby Creek, starting with an expensive study. The mayor claims the fish are transplanted and money for a study could be used to do the project in the first place.

"I'm a little nervous tonight," Watershed Council Coordinator Jesse Jones admitted. "Because about 10 years ago, I had heard stories that a (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) press person came to talk about fish in Cullaby Creek and they were blamed and accused of planting the fish in the creek."

She then showed photos of dead fish at Cullaby Creek. To get there, she said, the fish would have to swim up the Skipanon River, through the lake and then up to the creek.

"The Skipanon River is definitely alive, or has life in it, however you want to look at it," Jones said.

But Mayor Dick Hellberg disagreed.

11-14-2012 See WARRENTON, Page 10



Dick Hellberg

Warrenton: 'Would you suggest we rename it Skipanon Ditch'

Continued from Page 1

"In the 1960s, the Oregon Department of Fisheries, it wasn't ODFW then, they did take excess fish from Clatskanie and put them in Cullaby Lake for a number of years," Hellberg said. "They also took excess hatchery fish and released them above Youngs River Falls. And that's where that comes from. I am sure there are strays from the kids' hatchery here. If there's any native fish in Cullaby Lake, they didn't come from the Skipanon. They would have had to go through the mechanical system."

"There are definitely different opinions on what you just said," Jesse Jones replied, offering to bring maps for Hellberg and her to look at together.

"There may be different opinions, but the facts are the facts," Hellberg countered. "I was alive when they released the fish up there."

He also added that the Skipanon River is not really a river, but a ditch from Perkins Creek on. "It's a man-made river. It's a ditch. It was an irrigation ditch."

"Would you suggest we rename it Skipanon Ditch?" Jones asked.

When he replied with a smile and a "maybe," she answered, "You have a very active council called the Skipanon River Watershed Council."

Jones came to the Warrenton City Commission Tues-

day to give a presentation on what the Watershed Council does. She's been with the council for 1 1/2 years as its single employee with volunteers.

"I wanted to talk to you tonight about what a resource we are to the community," Jones said. The council receives \$20,000 in annual payments from Pacific Seafoods. It is also supported by grants.

"At this time we have been saving our money, and we have quite a nice bank account and that money is available for restoration projects, such as fish passage and water quality improvement."

Restoration projects, she said, have contributed more than \$60 million to Clatsop County.

Jones briefed the City Commission on what the Watershed Council hopes to do for the Eighth Street Dam, something that has been on the council's action plan for years, she said.

The project would look at the Eighth Street Dam, the middle dam and the fish ladder at Cullaby Lake.

"What we're going to look at is what would happen if you replaced two of those three structures and then replaced the fish ladder at Cullaby Lake which I understand is out of compliance right now," Jones said. "So, in a couple of years, you'll be able to come back and be like, 'all right, this is what it's going to look like.' Hopefully we'll

have some fancy models for everyone."

To look into that, she said, the Watershed Council will have to conduct a "massively huge" study.

"I put in for a grant that explained why we want to take this structure out," Jones said. "I know the city is very interested in if that would be replaced with a bridge, what would happen? And that isn't my decision. What we would like to do is study what would happen if we took out the structure, if we replaced that structure with a bridge."

A grant application has been submitted for \$50,000, but has not yet been awarded. The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce has agreed to contribute \$100,000. The U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife has agreed to contribute \$10,000 to \$15,000.

"All of that money would be put together and that would pay for a massively huge study," Jones said.

The mayor offered a suggestion for how the money should be used instead.

"The money that you're going to generate with these grants for a study, you could just take a small part of that and build a bridge," Hellberg said.

Jones explained the bridge will be expensive and the studies are required.

"There are things I have to do," she said.

Hellberg added he hoped the people's tax dollars were being used wisely.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wishing Everyone a Safe, Healthy and Peaceful 2013



Warrenton Fire Chief Ted Ames thanks students from Warrenton Grade School for helping fill the fire department's food barrels for their annual Christmas Food Drive.

Students from both the grade school and high school donated many hundreds of pounds of food for the drive.

The fire department passed out over 220 boxes of food to local families and individuals in need.
(Photo by Kathi Merritt)



Cont.

Commission makes appointments to boards and committees

Several appointments to various committees and advisory boards were made by the Warrenton City Commission at their Dec. 11 meeting.

Warrenton Budget Committee

- Two positions end on Dec. 31, that are currently held by Robert Baltimore and Ken Yuill. One application was received from Jay Flint. The commission appointed Flint to the budget committee.

Warrenton Community Center Advisory Committee

- Two positions currently held by Linda Giddings and Cindy Young will end Dec. 31. Giddings applied for re-appointment and the commission received an application from Frank Becker. Both were appointed to the committee.

Warrenton Parks Advisory Board

- Two positions currently held by William Berg and Richard Johnson end on Dec. 31. Berg applied for re-appointment and was appointed by the commission. There are still two positions open on the board.

Warrenton Community Library Board

- Two positions currently held by Kathleen Merrit and Jill Benish will end on Dec. 31. Both applied for re-appointment and were appointed for another term by the commission.

Warrenton Business Association

- Three positions currently held by Carla Marten-Sowens, Mary Iverson and Virginia Watson end on Dec. 31. Watson applied for re-appointment and was appointed to another term. There are still two open positions on the board.

Warrenton Planning Commission

- There were four positions open on the planning commission. There are two positions currently held by Daryl Birney and Vince Williams ending on Dec. 31. One position was vacated by Steve Hawks, who resigned. One position held by Henry Balensifer will be vacated due to Balensifer being elected to the city commission. Six applications were received: Vince William (for re-appointment), Christine Bridgens, Ken Yuill, Chance Moore, Jay Flint and Deon Harris. The commission re-appointed Williams and appointed Bridgens and Yuill. The commission decided to wait on the final appointment until after the new commission comes on board in January.

Anyone interested in applying for any of the open positions on the committees and boards should contact City Record Linda Engbretson at 503-861-2233.

CP 12.28.2012



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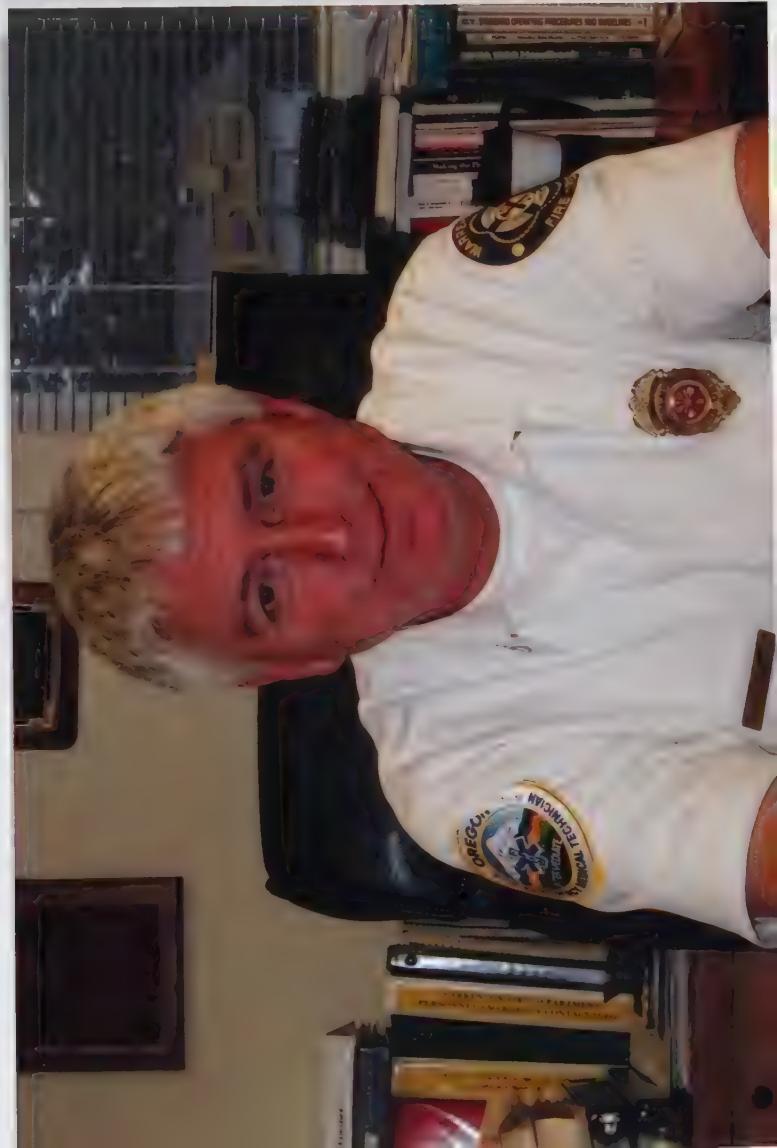




Photo: Jane

Red Cross
Ames
Dec. 2012

Warrenton passes Ted Ames to Astoria Fire Department



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Astoria's acting Deputy Fire Chief Paul Gascoigne, left center, welcomes new Chief Ted Ames, delivered by his former crew with the Warrenton Fire Department Wednesday morning. Ames is taking the position after 16 years as fire chief in Warrenton.

Fire crew makes new tradition with the changing of the fire chief

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

New Astoria Fire Chief Ted Ames was delivered by the Warrenton crew to his first day on the job Wednesday — a surprise to the chief and a passing of the torch for his former crew.

The Warrenton Fire Department drove Ames from his home at 7:30 a.m., over the New Youngs Bay Bridge, and to the Astoria Riverwalk Inn. It was there where Ames was met by the Astoria Fire Department, who brought him the rest of the way.

"The Warrenton fire crew said the guys down there wanted to do something for the exchange," said Astoria's acting Deputy Chief Paul Gascoigne.

"It was all their idea. They wanted to do something special for him for his transfer day. So I made up some story about this being a tradition to help facilitate the transfer and it's kind of cool. It's pretty symbolic."

So with that, Ames began his first day — at a loss for words while the new and old crews congratulated him on his new position. He shook hands with those gathered and then a radio call made to Astoria Dispatch by Warrenton Fire's Mike Stein signaled Ames' first official day on duty.

The idea of the gathering belonded to Christopher Penno and Stein.

"Handing him off feels pretty good," Penno said. "Being able to bring him over here was awesome.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Ted Ames crosses over to the Astoria Fire Department Wednesday after serving 16 years as chief of the Warrenton Fire Department. Ames takes over for interim Fire Chief Pete Curzon, the city's police chief, who has held the position since Fire Chief Lenard Hansen retired last year.

He's been an inspiration to me. He's a great guy. He'll do well."

Astoria fire personnel told Ames it was a tradition. And while that may have been stretching the truth to ensure Ames didn't drive himself that day, it was nothing compared to old traditions Astoria Fire once practiced honestly.

"There's a pretty weird chapter in Astoria Fire history," Lt. Bob Johnson said.

An old legend passed on by firefighters of years past made it known that if a fire chief died in the line of duty, whoever drove the chief's car back to the station would become the new chief.

And in 1961, that's the situation two senior firefighters were faced with — who would take the keys?

See AMES, Page 10



Submitted photo

A message on the Astoria Fire Department's reader board thanks Police Chief Pete Curzon for his work filling in as the city's interim fire chief. During 2012, it was discovered by the Astoria Police that former Deputy Chief Steve Straily had allegedly forged documents and as a result, resigned. Since that time, the AFD underwent restructuring.

Ames: Legend remains

Continued from Page 1

Astoria Fire Chief Wayne Osterby collapsed at the scene of a fire at the Trinity Apartments near where the Hong Kong Restaurant is today. Osterby died of a heart attack. Two apartment residents also died in the fire.

Because Osterby died at the scene, a tradition played out.

"It must have been football season because Chief Osterby apparently was at a football game and ran down the street to start directing traffic," Johnson said. "He collapsed in the street and died. Then there was apparently a dispute between two senior members of who would take the chief's car back to the station because it was legend or folklore who drove the car back

was going to be the next chief based on that."

A fist fight ensued, Johnson said, between Ami Rautio and George "Doby" Backlund for the keys.

"Ami actually won the fight and got the keys. But Doby was named the interim chief for a year," Johnson said. "But ultimately the City Council appointed Ami the Fire Chief in April 1962. I'm not sure if it was April Fool's Day, but it was pretty close to it."

The article, naming Rautio to the chief's position, was published April 3 and said at the same time, Backlund's retirement had been announced because of health issues.

But the story between Rautio and Backlund doesn't end there.

"The front page of the newspaper that day said Ami had been named chief. But in a little inset story, it said ambulances responded to Doby's house because he had died," Johnson said. "This story had been told to both Paul (Gascoigne) and I when we started and it had been told to the older guys before that. The story goes that Doby was out mowing the lawn and his wife heard that Ami had been named chief on the radio."

He continued, "She opened the kitchen window and hollered out to him, and he died right there."

The legend has remained in the Astoria Fire Department community and they hoped to welcome their new chief Ames with some tradi-

tions of their own.

As for how Johnson feels with Ames coming on as chief, he said, "I think we're all pretty excited. It was quite a year last year."

Gascoigne said the last time a fire chief from outside of the department was hired occurred in May 1987, before any mem-

ber of the current crew worked for Astoria Fire. Ames' office will be at the Public Safety Building, located at 555 30th St., but it isn't ready for him yet.

"It was six months before I started," he said of the last outside fire chief's hire. "It's a big change for all of us. I'm abso-

lutely looking forward to it. It's going to be a mayhem day today because we have all of his orientation to do, but at the same time we have the remodel going on and the carpet being installed in all of the offices so he doesn't even have an office to go to yet. But that's OK, we'll keep him busy."



JON LINGEL — For the Daily Astorian

Astoria Fire Department's new chief, Ted Ames (still waiting for his uniform), met for the first time with Astoria career and volunteer firefighters as well as the Astoria CERT team Wednesday evening. Ames spoke of his time with the Warrenton Fire Department and plans for the future in Astoria and promised not to make changes "for the sake of change."



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Warrenton Fire personnel, from left in the background, Willie Nyberg, Steven Zamora, and Mike Stein radio to dispatch the official start of new Astoria Fire Chief Ted Ames', right, shift. His former crew from Warrenton picked Ames up at home Wednesday morning and delivered him to waiting Astoria Fire crew members including Paul Gascoigne, left.

10

Vote on New Light System Set in Nov.

A proposal to replace the worn-out ornamental downtown street lighting system will go before the voters in November, but the city council hasn't decided yet just what the proposal will be. The council voted, with great show of reluctance and under prodding by Mayor Harry Steinbock, that it would put the long-deferred issue to the voters in November.

In the meanwhile, council members agreed Monday night, studies will be continued to determine just what proposal the voters will be asked to approve.

The issue of new downtown lights to replace an inefficient system installed in 1904 has been before the council, off and on, since 1955. In that year Pacific Power and Light company submitted a proposal for a complete new system, using fluorescent or mercury vapor lights hanging from overhead arms, to be paid for in annual installments over 20 years.

PP&L revised its cost figures on this proposal in 1959. In 1960 a citizens' subcommittee recommended action to replace the old lights, and in 1961 and again early this year the council has reviewed this subject but taken no action.

City Manager William Cunningham told councilmen Monday night that it cost the city \$2500 for power and \$4000 for repairs to operate the present system in 1961. He said annual cost of the new system proposed by PP&L varies from

Rautio Named New Chief of City Fire Unit

Appointment of Arni Rautio as new Astoria fire chief, announced Monday night by City Manager William Cunningham, won approval of the city council by unanimous vote.

Rautio succeeds George Backlund, who has retired effective March 31 for reasons of health. Rautio's appointment was made effective April 1.

ARNI RAUTIO

Rautio, a lifetime Astorian resident, has been a regular member of the fire department since 1948. He had started as an auxiliary fireman the year before. He has served as fire captain for several years.

Rautio has been in temporary charge of the department for the past several weeks while Backlund has been absent due to illness.

Backlund Commended

Backlund received formal commendation of the city council Monday night for his long service. He has been a full time member of the department since 1924 and before

George H. Backlund, Astoria fire chief, whose retirement was announced at Monday night's city council meeting, died unexpectedly just before noon Tuesday. Firemen were called with the city ambulance to the Backlund home at 11106. Mrs. Backlund said he had collapsed at home. He was pronounced dead.

Daily Astorian file

A legend believed by past Astoria firefighters made it known that if a chief died in the line of duty, whoever drove the chief's car back to the station would be named the new chief. A news clipping from 1962 displays the aftermath of one such instance.

Page 4

Mark Kujala returns as Warrenton mayor



By Gary Nevan

Mark Kujala will once again represent the City of Warrenton as mayor.

At Tuesday night's Warrenton City Commission meeting, commissioners voted 4-1 to appoint Kujala as mayor for 2013. Voters in 2014 will elect the Warrenton mayor.

Commissioners Kujala, Henry Balensifer, Mark Baldwin and Tom Dyer voted to replace the 2012 Mayor Dick Hellberg with Kujala. Hellberg voted for himself.

Henry Balensifer was appointed vice-chair by a 3-2 vote. Kujala, Balensifer and Dyer voted for Balensifer while Baldwin and Hellberg voted for Baldwin.

The commissioners thanked Hellberg for his service.

"It's been my pleasure to serve as mayor this past year," said Hellberg.

Kujala thanked the commission for their support.

"Thank you, I'm very pleased," he said. "I'm anxious to work with the city commission and city manager Kurt Fritsch. Thank you to Mayor Hellberg. I appreciated his direct no-nonsense approach."



Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch (right) administers the oath of office to City Commissioner Tom Dyer at Tuesday night's city commission meeting. "I'm glad to be here and I appreciate all your support," Dyer said. (Photo by Gary Nevan)

C.P.
1.25.2013

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Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch (right) administers the oath of office to City Commissioner Tom Dyer at Tuesday night's city commission meeting. "I'm glad to be here and I appreciate all your support," Dyer said. (Photo by Gary Nevan)



The Warrenton Fire Department took delivery of a new fire truck last week. (Photo by Gary Nevan)

City takes delivery of new fire truck

By Gary Nevan

The Warrenton Fire Department's new fire truck arrived last week, replacing the department's 1986 Ford fire engine that needed extensive repairs.

The new truck, a 2012 E-One brand, was a demo truck for the past year, said Warrenton Fire Chief Ted Ames.

"The manufacturer took the truck around the nation where it was shown to dealers," he explained. "It only has about 5,000 miles on it and I believe we got it for a very good price."

The truck cost \$267,000. A new one would have cost \$340,000, Ames said.

"It's not exactly everything we need but it's very close," he said.

Ames made a presentation to the Warrenton City Council last year explaining that the department's 1986 fire truck, located at the Hammont Fire Station, needed \$36,000 in repairs.

"It just didn't make financial sense to spend the money to fix it," Ames said.

In December of 2011, the commission gave Ames the go-ahead to begin the search for a new truck. City Manager Ken Frisch suggested a lease program and the city able to negotiate a seven-year lease with the manufacturer for payments of \$41,460 per year. The funds will come directly from the fire department's budget.

The new fire truck has a 1,000 gallon water tank and is able to pump 1,250 gallons of water per minute. The truck has a short wheel base, which will allow it to turn around in cul-de-sacs and negotiate the city's narrow streets. Fire department crew is able to fit inside the rig out of inclement weather.

"That's a huge safety issue," said Ames.

The fire truck will be stationed in Hammont and be in service by the end of April, Ames said.



City's new garbage truck takes to the streets

Left to right: City of Warrenton Public Works Superintendent Don Snyder, Public Works Foreman Craig Walter, and Sanitation driver Chris Hollhusen stand in front of the city's new garbage truck. The truck is a DSU Peterbilt & GMC with an automated side-loading attachment. The city originally budgeted \$384,212 for the truck but the final cost came in well under budget at \$251,000. (Submitted photo)

Lighten up!

Warrenton fire crew lights up Lori Kulp's home



Courtesy of Lori Kulp

Lori Kulp, center, receives help putting up her Christmas lights from members of the Warrenton Fire Department, including Brandon Holt, left, Lt. Brian Alsbury and Chief Ted Ames. Kulp was injured in November 2011 when she fell from a ladder while trying to hang lights from her Warrenton home.

Woman injured last year while putting up Christmas lights

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Hanging Christmas lights can be a pain. And Lori Kulp, a Delta Air Lines flight attendant who lives on Gardenia Avenue, knows that all to well.

Last year, Kulp fell from her ladder and as a result of a brain injury and severe bleeding from her leg, hit by a light fixture on her way down, she crawled into her home where she nearly bled to death.

But this year, hanging Christmas lights was a breeze.

Because just like she did the night of her accident, Kulp had a little help from the Warrenton Fire Department.

"We have a unique relationship with Lori," Fire Chief Ted Ames said. "And we felt it was important to give her a hand this year."

Ames and five other firefighters hung her lights Sunday. They will also take them down after the holiday season is over.

"They told me I should never get on a ladder again," Kulp said in an email Monday.

"These wonderful guys put up my lights and will take them down as well. Living in a small town is absolutely wonderful — love my firefighters!"

Kulp's recovery from her accident was a long one. She remembered nothing of the event and in



Courtesy of Lori Kulp

Lori Kulp, left, a Delta Air Lines flight attendant, is assisted by Warrenton Fire Department Chief Ted Ames, right, as well as firefighters Brandon Holt and Scott Watson Sunday while putting up Christmas decorations on her Warrenton home.

May she returned to the Warrenton Fire Department to hear firsthand what the firefighters had seen. She also came to thank them.

"She had a substantial brain injury. She almost passed away," Ames said in May.

They discovered Kulp was unconscious on the ground for 12 minutes after the fall. Then she crawled into her home.

"I can remember vividly your bloody handprints on the bottom of the door where you pushed it

'They told me I should never get on a ladder again.'

— Lori Kulp
Warrenton resident,
Delta Airlines flight attendant

in," Lt. Brian Alsbury told her at the time. Alsbury was one of the men who responded to the 911 call hours later. He also

helped to hang her lights Sunday.

Kulp spent seven days in the hospital. She has a titanium plate in her face, she almost lost sight in her right eye and a chunk of her leg was removed. Then began the recovery process.

"I had to go to speech therapy, physical therapy, I had facial reconstructive surgery," she said at the time. "I'm convinced that God saved my life." She later added, "but these guys helped."

Warrenton leaders encourage memory care facilities

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — With the first reading of a development code amendment approved Tuesday night, a memory care facility could soon be coming to Southeast Dolphin Avenue, now that the city has considered allowing such residential businesses within the commercial zone.

A second reading will be held May 28 at the Warrenton Commission's regular meeting for final approval to specify that type of business within the current rules on the highway corridor, but that will not

approve the plan itself — a 32-bed center for people with Alzheimer's Disease, operated by Clatsop Care. Those site designs will have to go through the city's Planning Commission.

"The Planning Commission reviewed the application at a public hearing two months ago and voted unanimously to recommend that the changes to the code be made," City Planner Skip Urling said.

Mark Barnes, on behalf of the developers Bruce Richie and Steve Olstedt, spoke to the City Commission Tuesday about the plans and what the facility would entail. He said the developers themselves could not be present to discuss

the facility in detail Tuesday, but would available for any additional questions of the Commission at the second reading.

"We're not here asking for your approval of that facility tonight," Barnes said. "There's two facilities today, both in Astoria. One is the old hospital site, what people generally refer to as 'Clatsop Care.' It's what I would call a nursing home. The other is Clatsop Retirement Village on Youngs Bay. ... We're asking that you amend your code."

Commissioner Dick Hellberg said he was in favor of the change to fulfill the need for a memory care facility within the community, but cautioned

that state regulations need to be carefully monitored to ensure the people inside the facility have access to the outdoors in a safe and secured setting.

"There's definitely a need in this county for Alzheimer's care and it appears to be growing," Hellberg said. "I went through this with my mother-in-law and I heard some real horror stories about facilities."

Commissioner Henry Balensifer agreed. "I think it's a much needed amenity," he said.

The site where the new facility would sit, Barnes said, has already been selected and will be clear of the tsunami inundation zone. *5.15.2013*

New Warrenton Fire Chief finds a department in "great shape"

By Gary Nevan

Tim Demers has been on the job as Warrenton's fire chief for only a little over a month. But he quickly found out that one of the most respected fire departments in the state was left in good hands by former Fire Chief Ted Ames.

"It's been great, I've felt very welcome," Demers said of his time in Warrenton so far. "The department is full of awesome people. It's a very progressive department and is very respected throughout the state. They have certainly lived up to their reputation."

Demers said Ames "is a tough act to follow."

"Ted is a class act and has done a remarkable job," he added. "I'm very happy to be here."

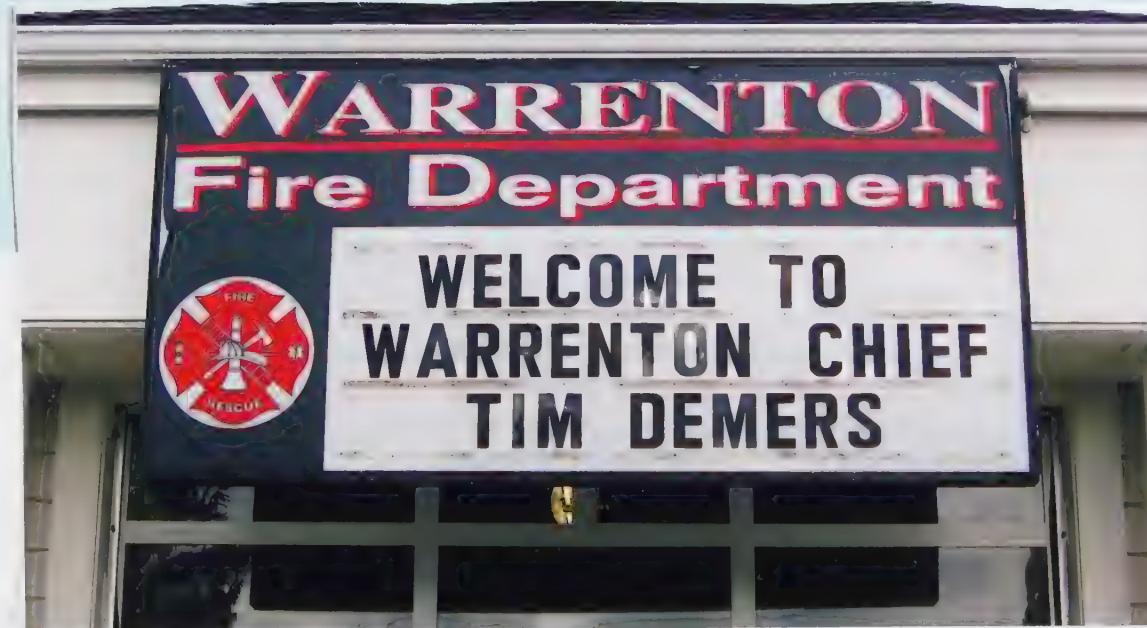
Originally from Central Oregon, Demers was raised in Madras and started his fire fighting career at Jefferson County Fire District #1 as a volunteer firefighter/EMT after graduating high school. He later became their first paramedic.

Demers then went to work for Warm Springs Fire & Safety for seven years and in 1991 took the Assistant Fire Chief position at Black Butte Ranch outside of Sisters. In 2007, he accepted the fire chief position at Oakridge Fire & EMS.

Demers and his wife, Janice, have five grown children.

When the Warrenton fire chief position came up, Demers said he jumped at the opportunity.

"This area has always intrigued me," he said. "I like small towns and the Warrenton Fire Department had a great reputation. The city and the department is growing. Not many in Oregon are and I'm looking forward to being a part of the community."



Port candidates want less micromanaging

Three want to take over as Holcom bows out

This is the second of three stories profiling the candidates in the contested races for the Port of Astoria Commission. The election is May 21.

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Two Warrenton men who have been active in community and development issues for years are among the three candidates seeking Port of Astoria Commission Position 2.

Stephen Fulton and Gilbert Gramson of Warrenton are joined by David Maki of Astoria, battling it out in the May 21 special election. They are seeking the seat being vacated by Floyd Holcom who did not seek re-election after five years on the Port commission.

Fulton, who works on land development and wetland mitigation issues

for Warrenton Fiber Co. and his own consulting firm, said The Daily Astorian editorial, "It's time for the truth at the Port of Astoria" led him to think about joining the Port's Budget Committee, along with his work around Warrenton levees and the Astoria Regional Airport.

"As I became involved, I witnessed how much infighting was taking place," said Fulton. "With a little push from Dr. (Sunny) Park, I decided I should run.

"Since the majority of the Port of Astoria industrial property is in Warrenton, my experience in mitigation, environmental protection, and property development will help pave the way to attract new businesses."

Gramson worked as the city manager for a quarter century, mayor for six years and city commissioner for eight in Warrenton.

"I felt that I would do a good job in helping them achieve their goals, the mission of economic development," said Gramson, who previously super-

vised management of the Port's two mooring basins for several years.

He said that his lack of connection with any Port operations – he's currently a semi-retired general contractor in Warrenton – will allow him to be objective.

Maki, a retired crane operator, is a regular attendee at the agency's meetings and has worked in such local staples as the Astoria Plywood Mill and Bumble Bee Cannery.

"I just thought I would enjoy working for the people, because that's who you work for," Maki said, adding that many people he knows want to bring more blue-collar work to the area. "It's about time I gave something back to the community."

So far, Gramson and Fulton have set up committees – Friends of Gil Gramson and Fulton for Port Commission, respectively – for their election, meaning they have spent more than \$750 apiece. Maki, so far, has not.

Maki said that his first goal, if elected, is to get Pier 2 rehabilitated. He

added that he'd like the Port to acquire North Tongue Point, with its potential for development. The Port leases the facility from Washington Group.

Gramson said he's interested in that possibility, but wants to make sure it's feasible to buy and develop the facility.

Every candidate mentioned a commitment to bringing more family-wage jobs to Clatsop County.

"You have a large industrial area adjacent to the airport where light industry could come in, such as a data center or operation like Lektro," said Gramson about the Port focusing on development of its vacant land, especially around the Astoria Regional Airport in Warrenton.

Financially, Fulton said the Port needs to service the current debt as scheduled and increase cash reserves until the current debt can be re-structured. It needs to collaborate with regulatory agencies

5.9.2013 See PORT, Page 3

Port: Candidates offer perspectives on development

Continued from Page 1

and stakeholders to create a more productive relationship on permitting and other issues. He specifically mentioned keeping open dialogue with the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon), with which the Port has outstanding loans it used to help tenants such as Lektro.

The Port has been doing a good job cutting all that it can financially without sacrificing necessary maintenance and other staff, said Maki. Gramson said the onus needs to be put on the administration and Port Commission, asking them where they can tighten up, combine positions and make potential staffing cuts to avoid financial difficulties.

On the working relationship between staff and the Port Commission, all candidates pointed to the need for less micromanaging, support of the staff and letting them do their jobs.

"It is up to the CEO to enact the policies and directions received from the Commission," said Fulton. "The Commission should not micro-manage the CEO."

The bill on decades of deferred maintenance seems to be coming due for the current Port administration in places such as Pier 2, where it has come up with a plan over the coming years to repair the facility as it can afford.

"I would expect that rather than all the revenues going to operational expenses, (a greater share) of the revenue an asset produces should be set aside for maintenance," said Gramson, adding that sometimes it's cheaper to contract out the maintenance work rather than doing it all in-house. "Where they're falling down is they're using all the revenues for operations and new projects. They need a reserve fund for future maintenance."

"Preventative maintenance is cheaper than waiting to have to replace a dock or make extensive repairs," said Fulton.

Maki said that there should be monthly inspections of the piers, adding that Pier 2's an emergency priority.

PORT OF ASTORIA COMMISSION POSITION 2

Stephen C. Fulton

Age: 59.

Address: 3598 Grand Ave., Astoria.

Occupation: Project Manager, Warrenton Fiber Company, city of Warrenton consulting on levy certification, shareholder in Cryo-Power Enterprises, a refrigerated intermodal transportation company.

Education: Master's and Bachelor's of Business Administration, University of Oregon, diploma from Astoria High School.

Affiliations: Astoria Golf and Country Club.

Length of time in Clatsop County: 41 years.

Prior Public Service: Chairman, Warrenton Business Association; alternate, Port Budget Committee

Issues/Goals: Maintain an economic diversity of activities, create family-wage jobs. Start collaborating with stakeholders and regulatory agencies to create robust, productive relationships.



Gilbert G. Gramson

Age: 72.

Address: 15 N.W. 17th Place, Warrenton.

Occupation: general contractor, Sandridge Construction LLC, semi-retired.

Education: Bachelor's of Science, Oregon State University, diploma from Warrenton High School.

Affiliations: Pioneer Presbyterian Church, Warrenton Senior Services chairman, Gateway Masonic Lodge No. 175 mason, Elks Lodge No. 180.

Length of time in Clatsop County: 68 years.

Prior Public Service: Warrenton-Hammond School District Board of Directors (1972-1976), city of Warrenton Planning Commission (1971-1975), City of Astoria Parks and Recreation director (1967-1975), Miles Crossing Sewer District administrator, Warrenton city manager (1975-2000), commissioner (2002-2010) and mayor (2004-2010), City of Clatskanie municipal judge (2004-2010).



David J. Maki

Age: 63.

Address: 12 Nimitz Drive No. 1, Astoria.

Occupation: retired crane operator for Operating Engineers Local 701, Astoria Plywood Mill, Bumble Bee Cannery, heavy construction.

Education: studied photography at Blue Mountain Community College, diploma from Astoria High School.

Affiliations: none.

Length of time in Clatsop County: 53 years.

Prior Public Service: none.

Issues/Goals: Get Pier 2 and other infrastructure rehabilitated, seek more federal funding, acquire Tongue Point.



Not all agree on Warrenton's \$22 million budget

Baldwin questions city numbers

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The \$22 million budget for the city of Warrenton passed Tuesday night, with funding for an additional police officer, a few part-time Public Works employees transferring to full time, and 5 percent increases to both the water and sewer fund.

Even so, the budget was slightly less than last year, City Manager Kurt Fritsch said.

But not every commissioner agreed that the budget, approved and recommended by the Warrenton Budget Committee, was the best for the city.

The budget passed 3-1, with Commissioner Mark Baldwin voting against it; Commissioner Dick Hellberg was absent. Mayor Mark Kujala

and commissioners Henry Balensifer and Tom Dyer voted in favor of the budget.

"I've had probably four or five people contact me," Baldwin said, "asking, 'If my wife lost her job and we were planning to buy a new car or truck, would we still buy it?' And I said, 'No that wouldn't be very smart.' 'How can you pass a budget that you lost between \$200,000 and \$300,000 on due to a fire?' And I said, 'Well, I'll take that to the commission.'"

Baldwin was referring to the Pacific Coast Seafood fire that destroyed the building June 4. If the seafood plant stays offline for one year from the city's water source, it is estimated to cost \$300,000 in city revenue. As of Wednesday, Fire Chief Tim Demers said there is still no official cause of the fire.

But the budget was constructed a month before the fire occurred, Fritsch explained. And that lost revenue was not calculated in. The finalized budget is due to the state in a few days.

"Their question is how can we leave the water and sewer revenue that we are losing from the cannery for six months to a year, a year and half, however long it takes them to rebuild," Baldwin said. "How can we leave that in there and still approve the budget?"

Finance Director Laurie Sawrey said the city has the discretion not to spend money. She said they've also talked about not doing certain projects.

"We don't know the exact number," Fritsch said of what the fire will cost the city. "The numbers that we're putting forward to the state,

we're recommending that you keep the same today. But there's projects, whether its tonight or throughout the year that we want to look at and

say, 'maybe we ought to just hold off this year,' then we have the discretion to do that."

There was no comment received during the public hearing on the budget.

hearing on the budget. A topic that is anticipated to come up for discussion at a later date, the commission will look at whether staff and commission travel expenses should come out of the same pool.

Currently the commission spends approximately \$2,000 on travel, training and dues to associations; city staff spends about

\$14,000 a year.

"I believe that it would be in our best interest to bifurcate those separate items so that staff has their own, we have our own, just so that there's clear boundaries instead of just one big pot," Balensifer said.

Sawrey said the commission is using the full amount every year.

Fritsch suggested that if the funds do become separate, the commission should up their amount, whether that be \$3,000 or more.

He said the commission could then decide whether to say, "We each have this much to spend," or to leave it lumped together.

"I don't know if you want to get into that," Fritsch said. "We don't need to get too tight on this if we don't want to, we can just make it one number and go with it."

He said the commission doesn't have to separate the accounts, but "it's a good discussion to have."

Hammond Marina parking project streamlines boater logistics



The new parking area at the Hammond Marina is much better organized and provides easy access to the boat ramp.

By Gary Nevan

Visitors to the Hammond Marina have probably noticed that the old sand parking lot has been replaced with a new paved area with dedicated parking areas, signage, and entrance and exit lanes.

Thanks to a total grant of \$450,000 from the Oregon State Marine Board, the City of Warrenton was able to construct a boaters parking area that is the envy of most cities on the coast.

Warrenton Harbormaster Keith Pinkstaff said the project was started two years ago when the city received a grant of \$250,000 from the state marine board.

"It's been a long process but well worth it," said Pinkstaff. "From sand to this is just incredible."

From what was once a somewhat chaotic parking area, there are now 85 paved and striped dedicated boat trailer parking spaces. Marked lanes lead boaters toward and away from the boat launch

ramp area.

"This is so much a better layout," said Pinkstaff. "This is top of the line for us."

After the initial grant, the state marine board awarded the city another grant of \$200,000 to complete the project which will entail a new boat maneuver area and restrooms. The city has until 2015 to complete the work.

"The marine board is one of the best organizations in the state," said Pinkstaff. "They did everything for us. They really do a great job."

The city supplied a match of \$107,500 with the funds coming from the city's transient room tax.

"We have a good system now and we had a great combination of teamwork to get the project done," said Pinkstaff. "City Manager Kurt Fritsch did a great job on this project. Everybody worked very well together."

Walmart moving ahead with Warrenton store

By Chelsea Gorrow
EO Media Group

WARRENTON — After many delays, a Walmart store is back on course to be built near Costco in Warrenton following an Aug. 13 decision by the Warrenton City Commission.

Local opponents of Walmart's plans appealed the company's plans to Oregon's Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). LUBA ruled in April that Walmart and the city needed to address three issues before the project could move ahead.

After considering the matter since then, Walmart decided to comply with the conditions that were of concern to LUBA:

- Walmart did not have its state wetlands fill permit in hand when it submitted its application to the Planning Commission. It has since obtained that permit.

- Walmart failed to prove it had a hardship in asking for a lower number of bike stalls. Per the city's code, the store would be required to have one bike stall per 10 parking spaces, equaling 68 for the retail giant.

"We believe the Warrenton Walmart can be part of the solution for our North Coast customers looking for more affordable shopping options closer to where they live and work."

Costco was permitted a variance to reduce its required bike stall number to 10. In the revision, the store has accepted the 68 stalls required at the front of the store.

- Walmart's design was against code by placing loading docks behind the store, visible from U.S. Highway 101. In the revised design, three loading docks have been moved to the east side of the building, expanding the store by 900 square feet and providing nine more parking spaces for customers. It removed the need for the screening wall between the store and the highway.



Dick Hellberg

"Walmart made the decision that instead of taking time to appeal that decision to the Court of Appeals," said attorney Greg Hathaway, representing Walmart, "it takes too much time and too many resources. And what Walmart wants to do is build a structure. And they'd like to build that project as quickly as they possibly can, once they get final approval from your city."

"So Walmart made the decision that instead of appealing the decision that we disagree with at LUBA, we decided that we would comply with LUBA's decision in every respect — and that's exactly what we've done and exactly what we're presenting to you this evening."

Hathaway later added, "The community is going to be proud of this store."

The city commission vote was 4-0 with Mark Kujala, Tom Dyer, Dick Hellberg and Mark Baldwin in favor. The fifth commissioner, Henry Balensifer, was absent.

"We are pleased with tonight's outcome and are one step closer to beginning work on the project," said Rachel Wall, senior manager for community affairs for Walmart. "We believe the Warrenton Walmart can be part of the solution for our North Coast customers looking for more affordable shopping options closer to where they live and work, as well as new job opportunities in the community. We are pleased with the updated design and appreciate the guidance from city staff throughout this process."

'Blackmail' claim in city levees dispute

Warrenton leaders review strongly worded letter to feds

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Warrenton City Commission fired a "warning shot" when they drafted a letter to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and presented it to

Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici, disputing the "flawed" digital flood insurance rate maps the city was "blackmailed" to adopt in light of the levee certification process that is under way.

That letter is being rewritten by the city's Engineer of Record Collin

Stelzig, and prepared for postage. But before it has even been signed, sealed and delivered, Stelzig agreed with City Manager Kurt Fritsch that the city has already received the response they "had been waiting on for years."

The city was deciding on whether

to send the letter as is, scrap it or have Stelzig rewrite it at Tuesday's Warrenton City Commission meeting. The commission approved the latter, but Commissioner Dick Hellberg was not impressed.

"I think that the threat of this letter a few weeks back has gotten some

folks' attention," Fritsch explained, opening the discussion with the commission. "And even predating that, I think we were starting to get a better reception from FEMA based on the informational dialogue Mr. Stelzig was having back and forth with the types of questions he was asking and the data he was asking for."

Levee: Updates planned

Continued from Page 1A

The city of Warrenton is preparing to undertake a multi-million dollar levee certification project, that would require the levees to be improved, heightened and officially certified. The requirements of that certification is based on FEMA's flood maps. But the letter states that the city, prior to 2008, became aware of incorrect mapping and notified FEMA of its concerns. A number of questions were raised as to how the expanded flood zones were calculated and the accuracy of the new maps.

In 2010, the city's appeal to FEMA was rejected and the city states it was obligated to adopt the maps under the specter of FEMA withdrawing the city's eligibility for flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program. In doing so, the city changed the flood zone through the city's building code and related flood insurance rates.

Commissioner Henry Balensifer said when he was in Washington, D.C., and spoke to staff members about this issue, the key problem was that the city did adopt the maps, making their struggle much worse.

"Henry, the whole thing is that we were blackmailed into doing that," Hellberg said. "We were forced to do it. I don't care about the staffers (in D.C.), I'm tired of listening to that (expletive). They're just a bunch of young punks who haven't been here, so don't give too much credit to that, OK?"

Balensifer said he wasn't. "This has become a political issue more than a technical issue," Balensifer said, to which Hellberg agreed. "I'm just saying how to navigate this relationship so that we get the change that we need."

Commissioner Mark Baldwin added, "Politics shouldn't be involved in this when people's lives and livelihoods are involved. It's ridiculous."

Mayor Mark Kujala said he believed the entire commission could agree on that.

Stelzig said the city has received maps from FEMA recently that they had been waiting on for years.

"What we received late last day, was actually a pretty good step forward," Stelzig said. "It's

something we've been waiting on for years, where we now have base flood elevations and they are actually, in most places, lower than what they were previously. They were lower than what I thought they would come up with. But where it mattered, they were higher. . . .

"I still think that we got some good information out of it."

The construction costs, as Balensifer asked Stelzig to point out, will likely be lower than expected. Geotechnical engineering on the levees however will still be costly, more so than the construction.

He said the city still had a good argument in the letter that was drafted. After it is rewritten, it will be discussed at the next Warrenton Commission meeting.

10.9.2013

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Continued from Page 1A

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10.9.2013

Kujala appointed mayor



By Gary Nevan

With the exception of Commissioner Dick Hellberg who abstained from the vote, Mark Kujala was unanimously voted to serve another term as mayor of Warrenton by his fellow commissioners at their Jan. 14 meeting.

This will be the last time that commissioners will vote to appoint the mayor in Warrenton. A November election will allow the voters in Warrenton to elect the mayor for the first time.

"I appreciate the support and I'm anxious to get started on all the projects we've started," Kujala said. "This is the last time we're going to do this. We have an election in November and I think it's a better way and more superior."

Henry Balensifer was voted to serve again as vice-chair by a vote of 3-1. Commissioner Mark Baldwin voted for himself, and Hellberg abstained.

Hellberg announced this will be his last year serving on the city commission. His position will become available in November and will become the mayor's seat. *1-17-2014*

Commission approves \$498,529 bid for new Warrenton Marina office and restrooms

By Gary Nevan

The Warrenton City Commission, serving as the voting authority for the Warrenton Urban Renewal Agency, approved a \$498,529 bid by Helligso Construction on Jan. 14 for a new Warrenton Marina office and restroom.

The original bid amount was \$548,791, but that didn't sit well with the commission who had requested some pencil sharpening to see where cuts could be made. The engineer's original estimate for the project was approximately \$420,000. Cost reductions included vinyl windows instead of fiberglass/wood windows and having city workers do the infrastructure work on installing a gas line.

At the meeting, several commissioners grumbled about the high

cost of the project. Funding of the work will come from the Urban Renewal District tax funds.

"This is still substantially over the original estimate," said Mayor Mark Kujala. "I was hoping we could find something closer to the original number."

Commissioner Mark Baldwin also expressed disappointment with the bid amount.

"I'm feeling a little let down," he said. "The word on the street is to throw them out and bid it again."

On the other hand, Commissioner Dick Hellberg said he wanted to get the project started.

COLUMBIA PRESS

January 17, 2014

Commission approves marina project bid

Continued from page 1

"We need to get started on this otherwise it will just sit here," he said. "If you build it cheap, that's what you'll get. I'm beginning to wonder if it will ever start. We need

to push on with these projects."

City Manager Kurt Fritsch cautioned the commission about only looking at trying to find the cheapest alternative.

"This building will be a show-

piece for the community," he said. "It will be an entryway to the port and the city. Things built in the city in the past have failed and they failed a long time ago. We have the funding in the Urban Renewal budget for this project."

Commissioner Henry Balensifer agreed.

"I'd rather we build something that the citizens will be proud of," he said. "It will be the point of entry to the city. Let's not cut the citizens and ourselves short."

After further discussion, the commission approved the bid of \$498,529 with Baldwin voting no.

COLUMBIA PRESS

January 17, 2014

City commission makes appointments to boards

At the Jan. 14 meeting of the Warrenton City Commission, appointments were made to various city boards and committees.

Warrenton Business Association

The commission reappointed Kristin Talamantez, Pat O'Grady, and Stephen Fulton. Darlene Warren was appointed. Other members of the WBA are: Marc Silva, Virginia

Watson, Roxanne Williams, Mike Moha, and Chris Gramson.

Warrenton Planning Commission

The commission reappointed Chris Hayward. Other members of the planning commission are: Vince Williams, Christine Bridgens, Tommy Johnson, Ken Yuill, Paul Mitchell, and Chance Moore.

Warrenton Parks Advisory Board

The commission appointed Makaela Terance as a new member of the board. Position 4 remains vacant.

Other members of the parks board include: William Berg, Joe Talamantez, Jr., Carol Snell, Garrett Olsen, and Sharon Anderson.

New Warrenton cop likes that every day is different

WARRENTON — Warrenton Police have a new officer on the force.

Robert Wirt, 40, a father of three boys, is the newest officer hired by the department.

And although he's newly sworn in as an officer, he's no stranger to the Warrenton community.

"I grew up in Battle Ground, Wash., and I moved here 17 years ago," he said. "I've done a mixture of jobs here. I came down with Fred Meyer as a loss prevention manager; I was transferred."

From there, Wirt worked several jobs including a position with the juvenile detention facility, managing a local campground and a job with the county transition center.



Everyday People

In November 2011, Wirt went to work for the marinas in Warrenton. For the last eight years, meanwhile, he's been working with the police department as a reserve.

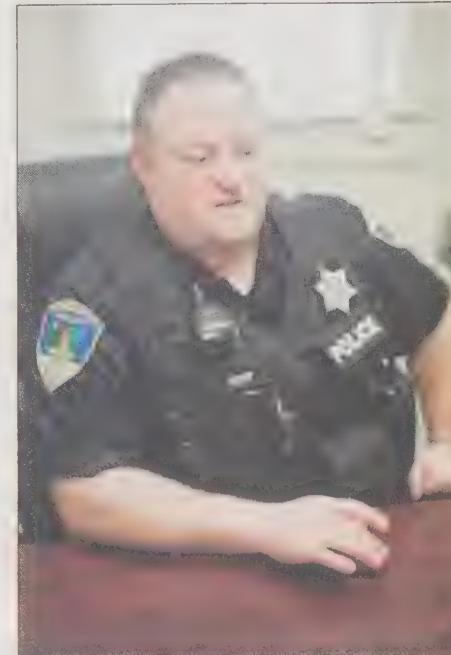
'You want somebody who is going to do the right thing.'

— Mathew Workman
Warrenton police chief

When a position became available, he applied and was hired.

"It's just something I like doing. I like the community, the community action that you get, and the difference in your day-to-day," Wirt said. "It's not always the same."

See WIRT, Page 3A



FP DA 1-20-2014

LEFT: Warrenton Police Officer Robert Wirt has joined the department.

ALEX PAJUNAS
The Daily Astorian



CHELSEA GORROW — The Daily Astorian

Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala, left, swears in new Warrenton Police Officer Robert Wirt at Tuesday's City Commission meeting.

Wirt: 'Hiring a police officer is not an easy task'

Continued from Page 1A

"There's a lot more responsibility and a lot more paperwork as an officer. You're actually handling the calls, and you're not just in the background helping the full-time officers as you do when you are a reserve."

Wirt said he is most looking forward to growing with the city as it grows.

He was sworn in Tuesday at the Warrenton City Commission meeting by Mayor Mark Kujala.

Police Chief Mathew Workman said Wirt has all of the qualities he looks for.

"Hiring a police officer is not an easy task," Workman said. "It's long, arduous. We started this back in July and put Robert through the ringer, and several other people as well.

And as hard as it is, it should be. Because when you are going to hire somebody for your city to be a police officer, you want somebody you can trust, somebody who is level headed, who will make the right decisions.

"You're putting a gun on them, a badge ... you want somebody who is going to do the right thing."

— Chelsea Gorrow



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

The Warrenton City Commission plans to address the elk population, which often affects traffic along U.S. Highway 101.

FP DA.

Clean it up!

Warrenton Commission to take action on eyesore

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The house at 211 Southwest Second St. in Warrenton has been a nuisance for years, according to residents and neighbors in the surrounding area.

But Tuesday night, the Warrenton City Commission made it official, declaring it a nuisance and issuing a notice to the owner to clean up his property once and for all.

Cluttered with tires, oil spills,

car parts, trailer parts, half-carved tree trunks and more, the yard is a mess.

"The property at 211 Southwest Second St. has been a crying eyesore," Community Development Director Skip Urling said. "I think that's being accurate and fair, that's not being mean about it."

Urling said since he came to the city two years ago, the property has increasing become worse.

The owner, who was not present at the meeting, will have 10 days

to clean up the property before the city comes in and cleans it up for him. Then, the man will be sent a bill.

If he doesn't pay that bill for the city's labor, then a lien will be filed on his property.

"I am a neighbor of this individual and he's been told repeatedly to clean up this property," Peter Lynch said, noting that he plans to remain in his home for the rest of his life.

See CLEAN, Page 10A



This house at 211 Southwest Second St. in Warrenton has been a nuisance for years, neighbors say. The Warrenton City Commission agreed to issue a notice to the owner to clean it up once and for all.

ALEX PAJUNAS
The Daily Astorian

"There are several people who have their houses up for sale and this eyesore brings the property values down and the next thing you know, we're going to have a whole area full of people like this because we're going to have low property values."

"This person has been told time and time again to clean it up. He's been told time and time again by his neighbors. ... There's stuff that's been there for years. And pollution is a problem."

Lynch said his neighbor often deconstructs cars and trailers in his yard with a sledgehammer, and a number of profanities go along with it. Commissioner Mark Baldwin said he too is familiar with the property, and believes a lot of that decon-

struction work is being performed in the city right-of-way.

If a junkyard tore apart vehicles like this man, Baldwin said, and allowing oil and other pollutants into the soil, the Department of Environmental Quality would fine them. Baldwin asked City Manager Kurt Fritsch to invite DEQ to be a part of the

city's decision.

The owner could file an appeal with the City Commission over its decision in the 10-day window. That would drag out the process a little, Urling explained. But to the six or more frustrated residents who came to the commission meeting Tuesday, Fritsch said the property will be cleaned up.

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WARRENTON — The house at 211 Southwest Second St. in Warrenton has been a nuisance for years, according to residents and neighbors in the surrounding area. But Tuesday night, the Warrenton City Commission made it official, declaring it a nuisance and issuing a notice to the owner to clean up his property once and for all. Cluttered with tires, oil spills,

car parts, trailer parts, half-carved tree trunks and more, the yard is a mess.

“The property at 211 Southwest Second St. has been a crying eyesore,” Community Development Director Skip Urling said. “I think that’s being accurate and fair, that’s not being mean about it.” Urling said since he came to the city two years ago, the property has increasing become worse. The owner, who was not present

to clean up the property before the city comes in and cleans it up for him. Then, the man will be sent a bill.

If he doesn’t pay that bill for the city’s labor, then a lien will be filed on his property.

“I am a neighbor of this individual and he’s been told repeatedly to clean up this property,” Peter Lynch said, noting that he plans to remain in his home for the rest of his life.

at the meeting, will have 10 days

This house at 211 Southwest Second St. in Warrenton has been a nuisance for years, neighbors say. The Warrenton City Commission agreed to issue a notice to the owner to clean it up once and for all.

ALEX PAJUNAS
The Daily Astorian



“There are several people who have their houses up for sale and this eyesore brings the property values down and the next thing you know, we’re going to have a whole area full of people like this because we’re going to have low property values.

“This person has been told time and time again to clean it up. He’s been told time and time again by his neighbors. ... There’s stuff that’s been there for years. And pollution is a problem.”

Lynch said his neighbor often deconstructs cars and trailers in his yard with a sledgehammer, and a number of profanities go along with it. Commissioner Mark Baldwin said he too is familiar with the property, and believes a lot of that decon-

struction work is being performed in the city right-of-way.

If a junkyard tore apart vehicles like this man, Baldwin said, and allowing oil and other pollutants into the soil, the Department of Environmental Quality would fine them. Baldwin asked City Manager Kurt Fritsch to invite DEQ to be a part of the

city’s decision.

The owner could file an appeal with the City Commission over its decision in the 10-day window. That would drag out the process a little, Urling explained. But to the six or more frustrated residents who came to the commission meeting Tuesday, Fritsch said the property *will* be cleaned up.

Clean: Pollution an issue

City eyes property sales

Levees and hunting elk discussed during Warrenton goal session

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The levee improvements with the help of the Federal Emergency Management Agency remains the top goal for the city of Warrenton's commission, one of six set Tuesday night in commission chambers.

That goal is an ongoing issue to reassess, possibly reconstruct and recertify the city's levees to meet FEMA's accreditation requirements, which drastically changed after Hurricane Katrina.

But a new idea has been added — an amendment to an old goal to market the city-owned property by Quincy Robinson Park — and that is to assess city-owned properties.

The move comes as a step in potentially selling those properties, something the city of Astoria started and ended in the last six months after a similar goal set by the City Council in 2013. Community members were outraged and protested the council's decision to market and sell 36 properties of the 1,300 the city of Astoria owns.

And while Warrenton commissioners do not have an inventory of properties at its disposal, Mayor Mark Kujala said he believed an inventory exists from 10 years ago.

"I don't want to go out and sell everything we own," Commissioner Mark Baldwin said. "But I do think we should look at what there is out there and make it available to somebody if they're interested."

City Manager Kurt Fritsch later responded, "Astoria has not had the best success going forward to try and sell excess properties." The comment was met with laughter.

Kujala had said he would like the scale down the goals from last year's six to four. By the end of the hour-long meeting, the commission again set six.

Of the six goals set, only one was new in its entirety, and that was to work on improving industrial development.

The five others included:

- Marketing the property near Quincy Robinson Park with an add-on component of selling city property;
- Improving the levees with the help of FEMA;
- Pursuing the Hammond Mooring Basin;
- Prioritize and implement the Urban Renewal Agency projects;
- Address the elk population for public safety that would include hunting.

Elk dissent

The latter goal was not favored by everyone. Commissioner Henry Balensifer said he was not in favor of that goal, especially Commissioner Baldwin's suggestion of the hunting with a mentor program.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch said ordinances can be written to allow hunting elk in Warrenton.

"It's a law that they implemented," Baldwin said of the program in which someone with a hunting tag can take a young person out hunting and teach them how to shoot an elk under their own tag provisions. "If (a child) is 14 years old and I want to see him get his first game animal and get him into the outdoors, I can give him my tag if I am with him, hand him my gun and he can (shoot it)."

"I don't like that one bit," Balensifer said. When pressed by Balensifer what he didn't like about the program, he replied, "I don't like inexperienced shooters and hunters firing weapons in city limits."

"Whoa, whoa, whoa," Hellberg interrupted. "Don't say city limits. We have a long history. My kids ran down the streets with their shotguns down the bayfront, after school. Kids were walking around this town with .22s."

Balensifer responded that Warrenton has developed since Hell-

berg's childhood, while Hellberg continued that he doesn't agree with the attitude. "It's like we're scared to death of holding a gun," Hellberg said. "We already have ordinances about shooting and public safety."

"We're not opening hunting season in the city of Warrenton," City Manager Kurt Fritsch said. There are private property areas the city is looking to utilize. He said from the city side of things, it will involve crafting the ordinances to allow for managing the elk.

Removing

Commissioner Tom Dyer commented that he, as an Oregon State Police trooper, received a call today of a herd of elk attempting to cross U.S. Highway 101. He and Baldwin both agreed that if the elk population continues to grow, they'll overpopulate. And while Baldwin said the city would start to

See CITY, Page 10A



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Warrenton City Commissioner
Tom Dyer.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Warrenton City Commissioner
Mark Baldwin.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Warrenton City Commissioner
Henry Balensifer.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Warrenton City Commissioner
Dick Hellberg.



3.
Skipanon
River

ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

During Tuesday's goal-setting session, the Warrenton City Commission agreed to continue to work on levee certification.

City: Warrenton leaders ‘friendly toward citizens’

see the elk die off, Dyer said it would increase the rate of cougars in the area.

“That’s the life cycle,” Balensifer said, who proposed removing it from the goals. He also had proposed removing other items, including the marketing of the city property near Quincy Robinson Park before the amendment of assessing city property was added. But Hellberg told the commission he feels they shouldn’t get halfway through a goal and then drop it before it reaches fruition.

“You’re right in the middle of something and you drop it,” Hellberg said. “I understand taking it off when you finish it, but when you get halfway to your goal and success, you just think, ‘Oh, well, it’s not a priority anymore, we’re going to drop it.’”

“That’s insanity. Nothing ever gets done. Ya know, this will be 12 years (on the commission) and thank God it’s the last in a way, because there is stuff that should have been done that is still dragging on 12 years later. It’s really frustrating.”

Communication

The one goal eliminated from this year’s goals that appeared last year was to improve communication with the public. The commission discussed that the city does a lot to communicate with the public, but as Fritsch puts it, “You can’t make people pay attention.”

“We have one citizen here tonight,” Fritsch said. “When we put this on last year ... I wasn’t real sure how we were going to do this. There are different types of communicating, but it doesn’t mean people pay any of it attention.”

The mayor hosts a coffee hour once a week, the agendas for the meetings are advertised, the commission meetings are open to the public, the phone

‘Ya know, this will be 12 years (on the commission) and thank God it’s the last in a way, because there is stuff that should have been done that is still dragging on 12 years later.’

— Dick Hellberg
Warrenton city commissioner

numbers for each commissioner are listed on the city’s regularly updated website.

“We go out of our way,” Fritsch said. “I think this com-

mission – at least since I have been here – has been very friendly toward the citizens of this community and reaching out and providing them with in-

formation. We have committees in this community that we can’t fill because people aren’t willing to step up and volunteer.”

The other commissioners agreed, while Balensifer noted that the city doesn’t have a strategy.

Kujala joked that maybe people aren’t coming to the meetings because the commission is doing everything right, but Baldwin said there may be a little truth to that.

The Warrenton City Commission will formally adopt the goals at a later date, for the next fiscal year to be implemented in July.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian
Space in one of the corner suites in Warrenton remains for rent. A neighboring suite in the building is occupied by Ohana Media Group.



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Dave Larson, of Larson Construction, uses an excavator to add woody debris Tuesday to a tidal channel that connects to Colewort Creek, a Lewis and Clark National Historical Park restoration site. The salvaged stumps and logs, used to improve fish habitat, came from High Life Adventure and White's Heating and Sheet Metal.

Colewort Creek project helps renew ecosystem

By TED SHORACK
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — It takes a lot of excess wood debris to create a welcoming estuary for salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

That material can be expensive — unless someone else is getting rid of it.

Large stumps, logs and native plants are being placed at Colewort Creek this week as part of a collaborative effort to restore the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park site. The salvaged wood material came from High Life Adventures and a development site in Warrenton owned by Bob White of White's Heating & Sheet Metal.

"We get all this great amazing material that would normally cost a lot of money for free," said Carla Cole, natural resources program manager at Fort Clatsop.

The discarded wood debris provides fish with shade, shelter from predators and draws insects to eat. The vegetation can also support migratory birds as well as amphibians.

"This is where the material that would have been lost is getting recycled and repurposed as high-functioning habitat," said Doug Ray, a wetlands consultant who owns Carex Consulting in Seaside and consulted White on the development in Warrenton.

Protecting
Dump truck loads of vegetation

are headed to Colewort Creek and Otter Point. It's one of many methods the park is trying to restore the native feel, said Cole, which includes protecting plants from elk with enclosures.

In 2012, the tidal channels at the restoration site were carved out. They were bare and didn't provide much protection for salmon. But they are looking much different now, with muddy organic debris strewn about for fish to call home for a while before heading out to sea.

"It's full of hiding places and also the fine surfaces start growing biofilm which kicks off the whole underwater food web," said Cole.

The current project is similar to what has been done before by placing recycled Christmas trees in the water.

"They're both different ways of bringing more wood back into the system," Cole said. "This is just doing it on a larger scale and a more immediate benefit."

Collaboration works

Spruce tree stumps were placed in the channels Tuesday using an excavator operated by Dave Larson of Larson Construction, who also co-owns High Life Adventures with his wife Lancey.

"I'm excited to be a part of it," said Larson of the project. "I've watched this ongoing program and I'm seeing immediate benefits."

See CREEK, Page 10A



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Carla Cole, natural resources program manager at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, describes ongoing restoration work at the park's Colewort Creek site Tuesday.



LEFT: A stretch of Colewort Creek at low tide, drains into the Lewis and Clark River. The bare, muddy banks of the channel offer little protection to salmon.

ALEX PAJUNAS
The Daily Astorian

Creek: Project to recreate what Lewis and Clark saw



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Jason Smith, a habitat restoration biologist with the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce tends to one of the six antennae Tuesday being used to track hatchery chinook salmon that have Passive Integrated Transponder, or PIT, tags in order to see how they are utilizing Colewort Creek.

"I think it's real positive to be a part of that," Larson said, adding that he's happy to be able to give back to Fort Clatsop. "They're such an asset to this community."

White and High Life Adventures can claim the transfer of the material as a charitable donation. Disposing of the wood themselves would have been costly. Cole said she would like to see this type of collaboration become more common.

"For me, I'm very excited to see it here, but there's so much opportunity for this in the area with the development going on and restoration going on at the same time," she said. "I'm hoping this will happen more and more."

Salmon is a big drive for projects at the park, but the goal is to also restore the land to what it was like when Lewis and Clark first gazed upon it.

"Our over-reaching park goal is to restore the native cultural landscape and functioning ecosystems in their entirety where ever we can," said Cole. "There's an intrinsic benefit to us in simply having an intact native plant community in place."

Tracking salmon

The park isn't permitted to do fish sampling at the site right now, Cole said, but young salmon have been spotted.

The site is being updated to passively monitor fish entering the channels using PIT tags, rice-size electronic transponders showing which upriver hatchery a fish is from.

Six antennas will be placed to pick up the signals from the fish that swim by them after passing underneath Fort Clatsop Road and entering the Colewort Creek site.

Funding for projects like Colewort comes from the idea that upriver fish will utilize the

brackish estuary before heading to the ocean, Cole said. But the projects are also for local fish as well.

Jason Smith, a habitat biologist with the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST), said there is a push to do less handling of juvenile fish and do electronic monitoring instead.

"This is kind of a passive way so we don't have to handle the fish, but we can still track or monitor their presence," he said.

The first year, there were a

lot of fish registering at the site, but equipment was damaged and hasn't been working at full capacity, Smith said.

There have been coho, chinook, chum, steelhead and cutthroat trout using the restoration site. The monitoring equipment doesn't tell the whole story because it only registers hatchery chinook salmon, but biologists will at least have an idea of how useful Colewort is to fish.

"We're assuming that if the site is suitable for chinook, that it's also suitable for the other species," said Smith.



LEFT: Though it may look like a tangled mess, a Colewort Creek tidal channel filled with woody debris provides shade and shelter while also drawing insects for fish.

ALEX PAJUNAS
The Daily Astorian

Tansy Point swap on table

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch offered the first update on the Tansy Point negotiations Tuesday night by announcing a second party has expressed interest in the property, in addition to Warrenton Fiber Company.

Fritsch said he was not ready to disclose the details of the second party, but told the City Commission he would bring the details forward in the near future.

Warrenton Fiber has offered the city of Warrenton a large piece of land off of Dolphin Road in exchange for the land their company currently sits on. Warrenton Fiber pays \$96,000 annually for rent. According to their contract, that is expected to climb to \$200,000 next year. *3:26 2014*

Swap: Warrenton Fiber owns multiple plots of land

Continued from Page 1A

Rumors have circulated for a month in regard to what Warrenton Fiber intends to do

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Rumors have circulated for a month in regard to what Warrenton Fiber intends to do with the property. “I know I’ve been contacted by quite a few people,” Mayor Mark Kujala said. “I think the concern is about the land use, if there will be some change on the site, some different activity. I’ve heard people say LNG. Others have said that the dog park will be relocated – which I understand we’re not talking about the dog park in any way.

“Warrenton Fiber would like to move along at a fast pace,” Fritsch said. “I think it behooves us to move at a slower pace so that I have a chance to provide you with updates.... We haven’t nailed it down to a specific piece of ground on Dolphin, but I have made it clear that, and they understand this, but this can not be a simple land-for-land trade.

"Thirdly, whether we're going to have a real government," he said.

Long term,"
A few different parcels are
being discussed within the
100 acres Warrington Fiber
Owner. One of those parcels

"Warrenton Fiber's plans for the property have not been made public. "Warrenton Fiber would lease we have in place."

Rumors have circulated for a month in regard to what Warrenton Fiber intends to do with the property.

owls. One of those parcels totals 20 acres that would serve as the relocation center for Warrenton Public Works, including their offices and a storage yard. In the past, Fritsch said, the county has expressed interest in co-locating in that spot, and that could also be an option that would bring some income to the city.

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that could serve as an emergency

gency services training facility, while housing a tower.

"The pieces to keep working on are the actual properties, access into it, because one parcel that we're looking at now would take access off 19th," Fritsch said, adding that he is not willing to spend all of the city's money to make improvements to the property.

He then noted the additional interested party for Tansy Point.

I am not ready to go into detail, we would entertain those offers. We've now been approached by a second company who is interested in discussing Tansy Point with us."

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Tansy Point Swap

on table

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The Daily Astorian

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Continued from Page 1A

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"That doesn't really ben-

efit us, either today, or in the long term."

A few different parcels are being discussed within the 100 acres Warrenton Fiber owns. One of those parcels totals 20 acres that would serve as the relocation center for Warrenton Public Works, including their offices and a storage yard. In the past, Fritsch said, the county has expressed interest in co-locating in that spot, and that could also be an option that would bring some income to the city in the future.

Another parcel is 14 acres that could serve as an emer-

gency services training facility, while housing a tower.

A continued rent for the next five years at \$96,000 is also being discussed. Tansy Point is appraised at \$3.8 million.

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Gasline pricked twice

Sandridge Construction workers run afoul in Warrenton

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — In just two days, a local company working on the city of Warrenton's sewer line project punctured a natural gas line twice, requiring emergency response.

That company, Sandridge Construction, is owned by former mayor and city manager Gil Gramson, and his wife Ann. Employees were working on Heron Avenue when the rupture of the gas line occurred both Monday and Tuesday.

Colin Stelzig, the city's engineer, gave a report to the City Commission Tuesday night, asking for their support in staff's decision over whether to let Sandridge Construction go, or penalize them.

On Wednesday, City Manager Kurt Fritsch said the decision had not yet been reached.

"We've kind of been working along with this, he's had a couple of issues with his sewer, and this is the last location that he's trying to fix," Stelzig said Tuesday night. "But in the process, he's hit the gas line twice. And today, he actually called us to tell us he wasn't going to work today, and he ended up working today and hit that gas line."

"So we are looking at three options."

One of those options is to go against Sandridge's surety, bringing in a supervisor to manage Sandridge. But Stelzig cautioned that process was time consuming and still involved working with the contractor. In the past, the contractor has remained involved for 30 to 45 days, he said.

The other two options are to terminate the contract or continue working with Sandridge, but have one or two city representatives on site at all times to make sure things go well.

"We have not made a payment to him in a long time," Stelzig said. "I think we have somewhere around

3.27.2014
See GAS LINE, Page 5A

Gas line: Sandridge was low bidder on the Northwest First Street project

Continued from Page 1A

has been an issue with the sewer line on the Heron Avenue project that has needed to be repaired, Fritsch said. The other two projects were located on Northwest First Street and Southwest Main Court and replacing the water and sewer line.

Sandridge Construction was the lowest bidder on the project. Fritsch estimated their bid was around \$100,000. The Heron Avenue project began in November, starting late because at the time Sandridge was working on two other projects for the city. This is the sixth or seventh time there

completely resolved," Fritsch said. Stelzig said he believed the problem was because of unqualified people working for the company, and a rush to finish because, "they've been out there a long time." He said the city could direct the company to remove the people from the project that may be the problem, and further direct them to hire qualified individuals to complete the work.

The Southwest Main Court project went fine, Fritsch said. But the Northwest First Street project has had its issues. A sewer line was ruptured twice during that project.

"No (law)suit was filed, but the issue has not been

own opinion on the project.

"My biggest concern is somebody's going to get hurt," Baldwin said. "And if we don't deal with it, and we know about it, and we allow if, then we are also, in my opinion, somewhat responsible. Whether it's the guy in the ditch or somebody walking their dog, natural gas is natural gas."

"It's a big concern of mine. I don't know if it's bad luck or what's going on."

The Gramsons could not be reached for a comment.

Commissioner Mark Baldwin, also a contractor, had his

Gasline

Damaged Twice

Sandridge
Construction
workers run afoul
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The Daily Astorian

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See GAS LINE, Page 5A

Gas line: Sandridge was low bidder on the Northwest First Street project

Continued from Page 1A

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Warrenton Fiber looks at land trade

Lease on Tansy Point expected to double next year

By CHELSEA GORROW

The Daily Astorian

Kurt Fritsch said he hoped the negotiations would lead to something that has long-term value to the city of Warrenton for the next 50 years.

"They have a large piece of raw land," Fritsch said. "There could be cash involved, there could be continued payment. ... It could involve partial construction of facilities, perhaps for public works. There's a number of different items here at play here."

Steve Fulton, an employee of Warrenton Fiber and a Port of Astoria commissioner, said he hoped the city commission would consider how many jobs Warrenton Fiber brings to the community.

Tansy Point was most recently appraised at \$3.8 million. City Manager



Kurt Fritsch

"The original intent was to have light industry on that property," he said. "It's next to (Carruther's) park and further west is open property that's designed for residential. And his (grandfather's) whole intent originally was to prevent possible land grab from the city of Astoria to put in some heavy industry. And he wanted to maintain the quality of the area for living."

REDA

3.12.2014

ty to the city of Warrenton several years ago, said that while he respects how many jobs Warrenton Fiber brings to the community, he also asked the commission to be cautious about Warrenton Fiber's plans. Dowaliby said he would like to know what

Warrenton Fiber's plans are, because the land was never meant for heavy industries, like Oregon LNG.

Commission votes to approve moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries

By Gary Nevan

Any medical marijuana dispensary operator who was planning on opening a store in Warrenton had better rethink their choice of location until at least May 2015, and maybe beyond.

Warrenton city commissioners Tuesday night unanimously approved a moratorium on allowing medical marijuana dispensaries within city limits until May 1, 2015.

Oregon Senate Bill 1531 allowed cities the ability to impose a moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries due to the legal uncertainty that surrounds the ability and authority of the State to allow for the location of the dispensaries in Oregon cities, and to do so would arguably

violate federal law.

"This gives us a year to see what the State is going to do," said City Manager Kurt Fritsch.

Commissioner Tom Dyer, who is an Oregon State Police trooper, said he agreed with the waiting period.

"I think it's wise to have a moratorium for a year," he said. Commissioner Dick Hellberg was more adamant about his opposition to ever allowing a medical marijuana dispensary in the City of Warrenton.

"There's no way I will ever vote on any marijuana dispensary in the city," he said. "I will vote no on anything that would allow it. I think it's being abused."

3.28.2014

"This will remain a public process and will take time," said Mayor Mark Kujala.

"It wouldn't bother me if we got a ladder truck out of the deal," said Commissioner Mark Baldwin.

"Duly noted," responded Fritsch.

MARCH 28, 2014

Columbia
PRESS

Another company shows interest in Tansy Point site

By Gary Nevan

Another unnamed player has emerged with an interest in purchasing Tansy Point as negotiations continue with the current leasee of the property, Warrenton Fiber Company.

Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch revealed at the Tuesday night city commission meeting that he has been approached by another company interested in the property which the city has had appraised at \$3.8 million.

Fritsch did not say who the company is but told the commission he would provide more information when it became available.

Meanwhile, negotiations continue with Warrenton Fiber whose annual lease payments will double in 2015 to nearly \$200,000.

"Warrenton Fiber would like to move at a fast pace on this but it behoves us to move at a slower pace," Fritsch said.

Warrenton Fiber has proposed a land trade or combination land trade and monthly payments in exchange for Tansy Point. The first proposal by Warrenton Fiber, Fritsch said, was for 20 acres off of S.E. Dolphin Avenue and an annual payment of \$96,000 for five years.

"We haven't nailed down which plot of land they're thinking about," Fritsch said. "It can't be simply a land for land trade."

He said any land involved in a trade would most likely house a new public works facility for the city.

"I have a call into the county to talk about co-locating their public works with ours," he said. "We could also look at building a fire department emergency training site and possibly combine it with other departments in the region."

Fritsch also addressed concerns that the Warrenton Dog Park would be moved.

"The dog park will stay there," he said.

Another concern expressed by the public, Fritsch said, was that the land could be a site for an LNG facility or another heavy industrial operation.

"Warrenton Fiber didn't object to having conditions put on the property that would keep it a similar type use (light industrial)," he said.

"I'm trying to look at what would be the best deal for the city," he explained. "This is not a done deal. I'm trying to bring the best deal to the commission."

Warrenton Fiber looks at land trade

Lease on Tansy Point expected to double next year

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Warrenton City Commission has agreed to begin negotiations with Warrenton Fiber for a trade of land involving Tansy Point.

Warrenton Fiber, located on the point, is interested in trading the land they currently lease from the city for vacant land on Dolphin Avenue. The company's rent is just less than \$100,000 annually. According to its contract, that's expected to double next year.

Tansy Point was most recently appraised at \$3.8 million. City Manager

Kurt Fritsch said he hoped the negotiations would lead to something that has long-term value to the city of Warrenton for the next 50 years.

"They have a large piece of raw land," Fritsch said. "There could be cash involved, there could be continued payment. ... It could involve partial construction of facilities, perhaps for public works. There's a number of different items here at play here."

Steve Fulton, an employee of Warrenton Fiber and a Port of Astoria commissioner, said he hoped the city commission would consider how many jobs Warrenton Fiber brings to the community.

Todd Dowaliby, whose grandfather deeded the Tansy Point proper-



Kurt Fritsch

ty to the city of Warrenton several years ago, said that while he respects how many jobs Warrenton Fiber brings to the community, he also asked the commission to be cautious about Warrenton Fiber's plans. Dowaliby said he would like to know what Warrenton Fiber's plans are, because the land was never meant for heavy industries, like Oregon LNG.

"The original intent was to have light industry on that property," he said. "It's next to (Carruther's) park and further west is open property that's designed for residential. And his (grandfather's) whole intent originally was to prevent possible land grab from the city of Astoria to put in some heavy industry. And he wanted to maintain the quality of the area for living."

FP DA 3.12.2014

Commission votes to approve moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries

By Gary Nevan

Any medical marijuana dispensary operator who was planning on opening a store in Warrenton had better rethink their choice of location until at least May 2015, and maybe beyond.

Warrenton city commissioners Tuesday night unanimously approved a moratorium on allowing medical marijuana dispensaries within city limits until May 1, 2015.

Oregon Senate Bill 1531 allowed cities the ability to impose a moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries due to the legal uncertainty that surrounds the ability and authority of the State to allow for the location of the dispensaries in Oregon cities, and to do so would arguably

violate federal law.

"This gives us a year to see what the State is going to do," said City Manager Kurt Fritsch.

Commissioner Tom Dyer, who is an Oregon State Police trooper, said he agreed with the waiting period.

"I think it's wise to have a moratorium for a year," he said. Commissioner Dick Hellberg was more adamant about his opposition to ever allowing a medical marijuana dispensary in the City of Warrenton.

"There's no way I will ever vote on any marijuana dispensary in the city," he said. "I will vote no on anything that would allow it. I think it's being abused."

3.28.2014

"This will remain a public process and will take time," said Mayor Mark Kujala.

"It wouldn't bother me if we got a ladder truck out of the deal," said Commissioner Mark Baldwin. "Duly noted," responded Fritsch.

Another company shows interest in Tansy Point site

By Gary Nevan

Another unnamed player has emerged with an interest in purchasing Tansy Point as negotiations continue with the current leasee of the property, Warrenton Fiber Company. Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch revealed at the Tuesday night city commission meeting that he has been approached by another company interested in the property which the city has had appraised at \$3.8 million.

Fritsch did not say who the company is but told the commission he would provide more information when it became available.

Meanwhile, negotiations continue with Warrenton Fiber whose annual lease payments will double in 2015 to nearly \$200,000.

"Warrenton Fiber would like to move at a fast pace on this but it behoves us to move at a slower pace," Fritsch said. Warrenton Fiber has proposed a land trade or combination land trade and monthly payments in exchange for Tansy Point. The first proposal by Warrenton Fiber, Fritsch said, was for 20 acres off of S.E. Dolphin Avenue and an annual payment of \$96,000 for five years.

"We haven't nailed down which plot of land they're thinking about," Fritsch said. "It can't be simply a land for land trade."

He said any land involved in a trade would most likely house a new public works facility for the city. "I have a call into the county to talk about co-locating their public works with ours," he said. "We could also look at building a fire department emergency training site and possibly combine it with other departments in the region."

Fritsch also addressed concerns that the Warrenton Dog Park would be moved. "The dog park will stay there," he said. Another concern expressed by the public, Fritsch said, was that the land could be a site for an LNG facility or another heavy industrial operation.

"Warrenton Fiber didn't object to having conditions put on the property that would keep it a similar type use (light industrial)," he said. "I'm trying to look at what would be the best deal for the city," he explained. "This is not a done deal. I'm trying to bring the best deal to the commission."

Land trade concerns

There are concerns that need to be addressed during the upcoming discussions between the city of Warrenton and Warrenton Fiber regarding the Tansy Point land trade.

One concern pertains to the ap-

praisal of the site. It was reported that the land was worth \$3 million and that the city-owned dock was only worth \$800,000, but the replacement of the dock would be \$8 million. So why shouldn't the value of this whole site be assessed at \$11 million, instead of the \$3.8 million that has been reported? The city's insurance company should have coverage for the replacement value of that dock; what is that value?

Mayor Mark Kujala has a column in *The Columbia Press* titled "Mayor's Corner," in the March 7 paper, the mayor stated: "This does not mean there will be a rush to sell property in Warrenton; it only means that we will be doing our diligence to assess the value of city-owned properties. Only if it can be determined that a property serves no current or foreseeable public good or purpose, and that the taxpayer would be better served by having the property on the tax rolls, would a sale of property then be considered."

The revenue of \$98,160, less 10 percent for the maintenance fund for the dock, goes into the General Fund. This helps offset lost revenue from the tax limitation measures of the 1990s: When the need to hire an additional full-time firefighter occurred, there was not enough revenue in the General Fund to pay for this position. In order to generate funds to hire another firefighter, the city commission placed a franchise fee on the water and sewer lines that run through the city. Franchise fees from utilities go directly into the General Fund.

Later, the commission needed to increase the water and sewer rates to make up for lost revenue in these funds. The leased revenue from Tansy Point is greater than the tax revenue would be if the assessed value is indeed \$3.8 million.

In 2013, the city of Astoria tried to sell a number of lots that they owned next to the Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton. The city claimed that the lots were no longer of any value to them. Clatsop County, which had given that property to the city, found out about this and was able to take them back. If Tansy Point is no longer needed by the city of Warrenton, shouldn't that property go back to the Carruthers family?

The truth of the matter is the lease agreement between the city of Warrenton and Warrenton Fiber has been beneficial to both parties. Maybe the best answer for this situation is for a new lease to be negotiated.

3.21.2014 KEN YUILL
Warrenton

City of Warrenton starts overhaul of marina

By Mike Williams

Coast River Business Journal
mwilliams@crbizjournal.com

WARRENTON — Warrenton's marinas are enjoying a renaissance with upgrades, new looks and potentially a new mission for one facility.

The Columbia River Bar Pilots purchased the Skipanon Marina in 2013. The sale closed in January.

Capt. Wayne Stoltz of the Columbia River Bar Pilots said the company is in the planning and permitting stages for the Skipanon Marina and declined to comment further.

The Warrenton Marina, owned by the City of Warrenton, has seen about 50 years of service. That's why the city's rebuilding it from top to bottom. And by bottom they mean the very bottom.

The plan includes dredging, along with replacing the docks and building a new headquarters.

Visitors to the marina will notice the new buildings rising in the southwest corner of the property.

It's more than just a new office facility, Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala said. "It's a headquarters, a showcase for the marina," he said.

The new facility will replace the current harbormaster's office and the public restroom and shower buildings. It will have two 900 square foot buildings, City Manager Kurt Fritsch said.

They should be completed by late summer or early fall, he added.

It's budgeted at just under \$480,000, Kujala said.

Gene Kane, owner of Tackle Time Charters and Bait Shop, is unimpressed with the plan.

He's had the shop in Warrenton for 30 years and currently has three boats operating out of the marina.

"I do live bait tuna, I do halibut, I do salmon in the ocean, salmon in the river," he said. "We do crabbing in the fall."

His 43-foot *Delta* can accommodate 27 people.

He's unimpressed with the marina's maintenance.

"I've been there 45 years out of this marina, and I've never seen a change yet other than a new office or a new restroom," he said. "Our docks are exactly the same as they



New docks are included in Warrenton Marina upgrade plans. — MIKE WILLIAMS PHOTO

were back then as they are now. They're dilapidated, deteriorated and ready to fall in the river. I had to catch a few of my clients coming off of the boat last year because the dock slanted over so far they were gonna go right into the marina, some elderly people."

Kane said the liability would be his in case of a lawsuit, but "you know who's going to hear about it — it's the City of Warrenton and the marina."

Kujala said the projects and the priority of the projects was recommended by the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee under the guidance of a consultant.

"That was the priority they selected and we went along with that as being one of many," he said, "so we will be

working on the docks, it's just as far as the timing, this was the project that was in the queue to get accomplished first."

Also on the list are power, water and sewer upgrades.

Dredging is high on the list for the marina.

Pacific Seafoods paid to dredge the mouth of the Skipanon River in the fall, Kujala said. That came to about \$250,000. The city paid for permit processing.

The city hopes to fold marina dredging in with a \$1.62 million Army Corps of Engineers project to dredge the rest of the river.

"For me it's a big priority," Kujala said. "I'd like to see it real soon. The commercial and recreational docks really need it."

Tansy Point

Continued from page 1

Tansy Point land trade sparks public debate

Editor's note: In last week's issue, an article outlined the presentation made by Warrenton Fiber Company representatives on a proposed trade between the city and the company for Tansy Point. The following article reports public comment made during the regular city commission meeting regarding the proposal.

By Gary Nevan

At the May 27 Warrenton City Commission meeting, citizens voiced their opinions regarding the proposed trade between the city and Warrenton Fiber Company for the city-owned Tansy Point. Warrenton Fiber Co. has leased the land from the city since 1986 and now wants to purchase the property in exchange for a turn-key city facility on 20 acres off of S.E. Dolphin Avenue.

Former Warrenton City Manager and Mayor Gil Gramson spoke out in opposition to the sale of Tansy Point. Gramson was city manager at the time of the lease agreement between the city and Warrenton Fiber Co.

Gramson, who lives about 500 feet from the Warrenton Fiber industrial area, said he opposed the sale of Tansy Point for several reasons.

"If the property is sold, the new owners could find a higher and more profitable use for the land in spite of any restrictions that might be placed on this transaction," he said.

Gramson said the city would have little ability to control the industrial use of the site.

Continued on page 4

Commission and mayor election filing now open

June 10 is the last day to file for election to the Warrenton City Commission and the Warrenton mayor position (four-year term). The last day to file is August 25.

This year, the term ends for the Warrenton Commissioner Position No. 4, currently held by Mark Baldwin. Position 5, currently held by Dick Hellberg, is also open and will become the mayor position. Hellberg has said he will not seek re-election.

Anyone interested in filing for either position needs to file their election as a surety at the Warrenton City Recorder at 503-363-0920.

6-6-2014

He suggested the city renegotiate the lease with Warrenton Fiber, "if they truly present a financial hardship to the company."

Gramson also said the 34-acre waterfront property should have a value of at least \$150,000 per acre or \$5.1 million. The city had the property independently appraised at \$3.8 million.

He said that without the lease payments from Warrenton Fiber, "the city will need to raise property taxes to maintain the current level of service."

Todd Dowaliby, whose grandfather, Eben Carruthers, originally gifted Tansy Point to the city, said he was concerned that if the property becomes under the ownership of private individuals, "the government could condemn it and bring in LNG."

Ken Yuill stated that Warrenton Fiber not only makes lease payments to the city, but also pays property taxes on Tansy Point. He advised the commission to hold an election and let the citizens of Warrenton decide the issue.

"Please don't rush into this," he said.

"We are taking our time," said Mayor Mark Kujala. "Everything is being done in public."

Roble Anderson, who owns property next to the Warrenton Fiber operation, said the lease agreement with the city, "Has the potential for a lucrative income stream for years to come. Let's not kill the goose that lays the golden egg. I think extending the lease 30 years would be a good compromise."

Pat O'Grady, owner of Warrenton Auto and Marine Repair, told the commission that he likes the idea of a new public works facility and would like see Tansy Point be transferred to Warrenton Fiber.

"When you allow private ownership, you will see more jobs and more industry," he said. "Tourism won't cover the costs, we need good paying, family-wage jobs."

Kujala reiterated that all proceedings on the issue will be held in public.

"We all want to be involved in this process," he said. "We want to do something that is in the best interest for the future."

The commission will next discuss the issue at its July 24 meeting.



Letter to the Editor

Setting the record straight

To the Editor:

At the last commission meeting on May 27th, I made a statement at the October 2012 "meet the candidates" forum held at Warrenton City Hall, Commissioner candidates Tom Dyer, Henry Balensifer and Mark Kujala said they would not sell Tansy Point.

The truth of the matter is that question was not even asked that evening. The question was "how do you feel about the sale of public lands to private parties?" Each of these men stated they felt anything of this nature should be done out in the open and they have kept their word on this matter. I apologize to each of these men.

Mayor Kujala graciously sent me the link to the KAST taping of that meeting. I had tried to find the audio but could not, so I had used notes that I had taken that evening. I was the person that said not to sell Tansy Point.

There is no question that the city needs a new public works facility, but to trade Tansy Point for it is just too great of a price. We, as a city, need to have multiple options for acquiring a new public works facility presented not just one.

Ken Yuill
Warrenton

Cont. from below

August 15, 2014

City to keep Tansy Point

Continued from page 1

Commissioner Dyer said he also went back and forth on the issue but decided the city needs to move its public works facility to higher ground in case of a tsunami. He said that Warrenton Fiber has made improvements to Tansy Point.

"The property was a swamp with no docks there," he said. "They have been good stewards of the property. We're going to need high land property and it's better to do things before they happen. I'm more in favor of this than not."

Commissioner Baldwin apologized to Warrenton Fiber for the City taking a long time to come to a decision.

"It shouldn't have taken this long," he said. "To me, we're not quite there yet. The value isn't there. I don't want to move public works out of the downtown area. I'm willing to listen to other ideas and options but I'm not for the sale. This is a deal for my grandkids."

Commissioner Balensifer praised Warrenton Fiber for being a good tenant and member of the community but said he didn't support a sale at this time.

"Early on I was asking how to negotiate a long-term lease and I'd like to see that happen," he said.

Balensifer also said the city should assist the company in getting its log yard paved.

Mayor Kujala said he has received overwhelming opposition to the proposed sale or trade of Tansy Point from the community.

"The public feedback does not support this," he said. "The public feedback also does not support a new public works facility. There are too many variables with what's been presented. Warrenton Fiber has been extremely generous with the community. I'd like to continue a very good working relationship with Warrenton Fiber and I think a preferable solution can be found."

The commission directed staff to work with Warrenton Fiber to explore options.

WARRENTON'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1978

AUGUST 15, 2014

City decides to keep Tansy Point

By Gary Nevan

In a 3-2 decision, the Warrenton City Commission Tuesday night elected not to sell or trade the city-owned Tansy Point property to Warrenton Fiber Company at this time. No formal vote was taken.

Mayor Mark Kujala and Commissioners Mark Baldwin and Henry Balensifer objected to the proposed deal while Commissioners Dick Hellberg and Tom Dyer were in favor of trading the property in exchange for 20 acres off of S.E. Dolphin Avenue and a new public works facility that would be constructed by Warrenton Fiber.

Commissioner Hellberg said he has debated the issue for some time, but ultimately decided that the burden of maintaining the dock at Tansy Point was too much for the City.

"Our record with our mooring basins isn't good," he said. "Hammond Marina is in shambles. We just don't have a good track record of maintaining port properties. The liability for us keeping Tansy Point is greater than what it's worth. We have very little expertise and a poor track record."

Hellberg also said he favored moving the city's public works operation.

"One of our goals in the 12 years I've been on this commission is to move the city shops," he said. "We've never been able to ac-



Logs getting ready to go into the chipper at Warrenton Fiber Company's Tansy Point operation.

complish that. I don't see we're going to have the money to do it. I think the lease opportunities with the new property could realize the same or more as what we're getting now from Warrenton Fiber."

Continued on page 7

Local Cub Scouts tour the Warrenton Fire Department



Members of the local Warrenton Cub Scout Pack visited the Warrenton Fire Department recently and were given a tour of the fire station. Pictured at top left: Luke Karr of Hammond, along with his father, Rick, proudly shows off his Pinewood Derby race car that is a replica of a Warrenton Fire Department fire truck. Pictured at top right: Scott Watson and Fire Chief Tim Demmers show a poster the Cub Scouts made for the fire department thanking them for the tour. **(Photos courtesy of Tim Demmers)**

Festooned for the Fourth

Kids, bikes lend color to Warrenton's annual parade

By SARAH MASON
The Daily Astorian

When it comes to birthday parties, kids are the experts.

Naturally, a 238th birthday party to celebrate our nation's independence is no different. For some kids in Warrenton celebrating the Fourth was like riding a bike.

Literally.

Thirty-five kids drenched their bicycles and scooters in red, white and blue during the first organized decorating party to prep for the parade's "Decorated Bike Show." The troop of patriotic bikers pedaled behind the dignitaries in Warrenton's annual Old Fashioned Fourth of July Parade Friday afternoon.

An opportunity to parade

More than 100 floats and other groups paraded down Main Avenue boasting their pride.

"The bike decorating lets kids who may not be affiliated with another group get a chance to participate," said Trisha Cole, one of the lead pastors at Calvary Assembly of God and a volunteer at the decorating. "A lot of groups at school and sports teams all have a float, and so these



SARAH MASON — The Daily Astorian

Monte Hamilton, left, and Tyson Hamilton decorate their bicycles during the first decorating party for the Decorated Bike Show. More photos online at www.dailystorian.com

kids are all just kids in the neighborhood who wanted to get a chance to be in the parade."

Cole, along with Karen Williams and others, assisted with the decorating.

"I don't want them to just be out on the sidelines watching the parade, I want them

to know what the Fourth of July is all about — flags and that 'we love America,'" Williams said.

Kids were weaving red streamers into their bike spokes, attaching flags to their handlebars, twisting patriotic Mardi Gras beads wherever they could, tying

star balloons to their seats and covering every inch with festive decor from the Dollar Tree.

One 10-year-old boy from Warrenton, Monte Hubbert, got so carried away he even wrapped himself in red, white and blue star beads. Two babies with American

flag stickers on their chubby cheeks sat in a decked-out stroller and three young girls covered their hot pink scooters.

There was even a "limo bike" or surrey that Cole sat shotgun in during the parade.

Grant Eoy, of Warrenton,

PARADE RESULTS

The Coolest Vehicle trophy was given to Tracy and Donna Black for their 1931 Ford Model A roadster. The Blacks also dressed up in period clothing.

The Coolest Motorcycle trophy went to Industrial Customs' custom-built vintage Harley-Davidson.

Trophy winners:

The Sweepstakes Award, chosen by Mayor Mark Kuja-la, went to Hampton Lumber Mill's Warrenton Division, which brought some impressively decorated equipment.

The Warrenton Award for best group entry went to the Wishing Tree Program.

The Astoria Award for best float went to the Astoria Regatta Festival's "Sail On" entry.

The Hammy Award for best light-hearted entry went to Fur & Feathers 4-H Club for its 30 club members who brought their small livestock dressed up in patriotic attire.

The Clatsop Award for best business or municipal entry went to the Astoria/Warrenton/Seaside KOA.

See WARRENTON, Page 10A

Warrenton: The parade brings people to town

Continued from Page 1A

a bike guru, helped by oiling chains and pumping up tires.

The decorations were free and so was the fun.

"It doesn't cost a thing either, so that's really helpful for kids who come from low-income families or maybe are homeless or living out of a car — they can just join right in," Cole said.

All across America

Like any small town parade, it was planned to attract crowds both near and far.

"The parade is important because it brings people to town," said Cindy Yingst, parade director for the past six years. "The Warrenton Business Association, which sponsors the parade, hopes people will come to town and spend their money ... while still enjoying themselves."

Madison, 7, and Aiden Pierce, 10, have traveled to Warrenton with their family from Helena, Mont., for the last three summers. They have seen the parade twice and were gearing up for their first appearance. Their yellow Lab, Katie, even sported decor looped through her collar for the parade.

"I've been in a parade before, but it was just for Mother's Day tea, so I'm excited," Madison Pierce said.

Another family, the Grovers, traveled from Camas, Wash., for the holiday. They purchased a beach house on Digger Road last June and were excited for five of their family members to be riding in the parade.

"My mom, Gretchen Glover, lives in Warrenton permanently and wanted

to get us more involved in the community," said Laura Glover Wasson.

The Grovers also had a surrogate family member along with them — Eider Garcia, an exchange student from Basque Country, Spain. The Fourth of July marked her first day in Warrenton and her fourth day in America.

"It's fine and a great time," Garcia said. "It's different. We don't have this in our country, instead we have a festival for the Three Magic Kings."

More festivities

Beginning at noon, a line of people wrapped around the fire station waiting to indulge in a vital part of any birthday party — food.

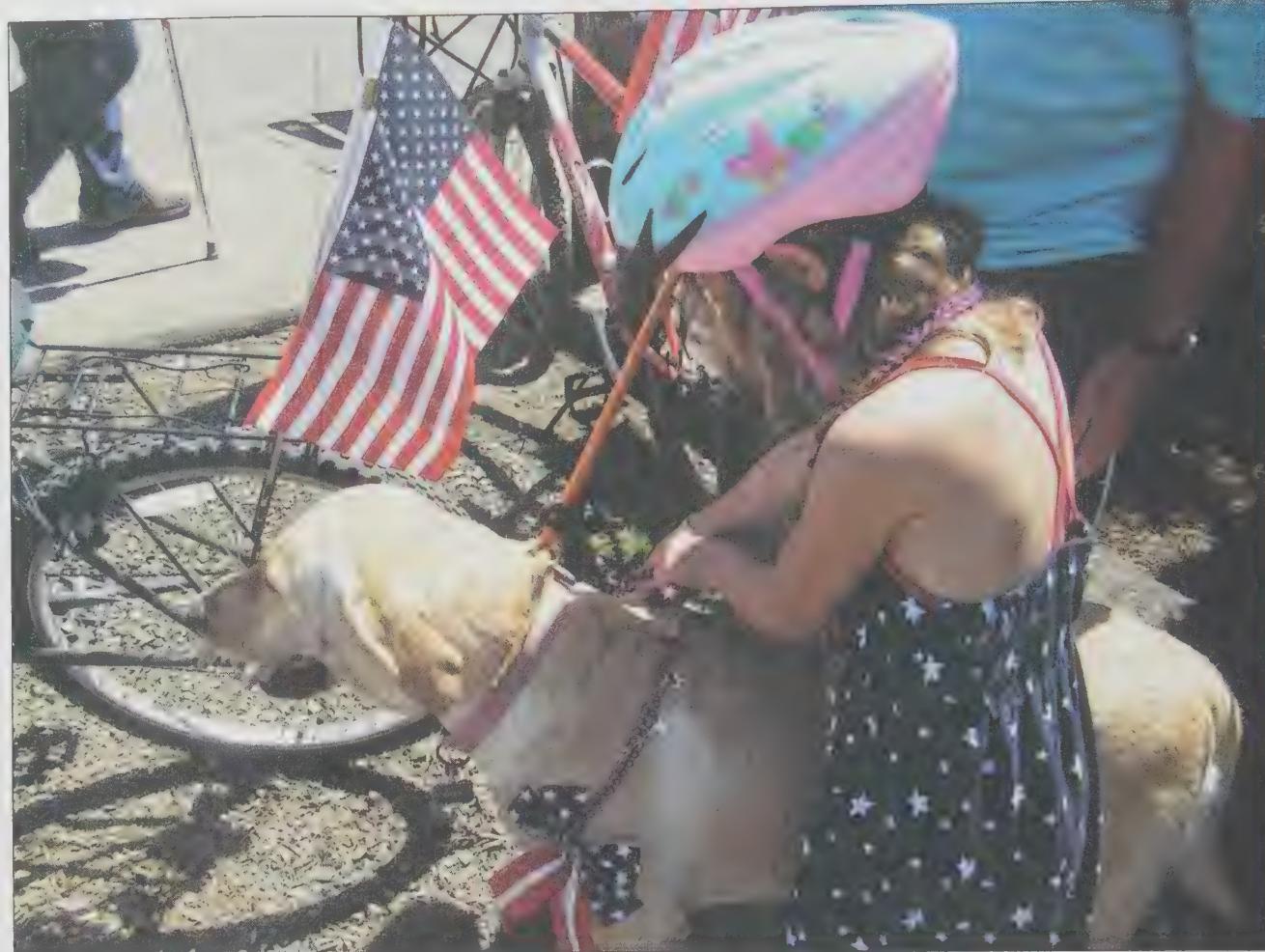
Word on the street is the firefighters bought 1,200 hamburger patties and 800 hot dogs to give out. They also offered condiments, refreshments and potato chips, but no cake.

There was candy though, and lots of it.

Dwanna Williams, granddaughter of Karen Williams who helped with bike decor, was also celebrating her ninth birthday at the parade. She called herself the "birthday princess" and wore a silver metallic cape while she scooped up candy during the parade.

"I was born at 10 p.m. in 2005 when the first city firework was lit," Dwanna Williams said.

One entry didn't make it in time for the parade. The Northern Alliance Drum Corps from Portland was running late and didn't arrive in Warrenton until 4 p.m., after the parade had ended. Members of the corps got out their drums anyway and marched down a portion of Main Avenue.



SARAH MASON — The Daily Astorian

Madison Pierce from Helena, Mont., wraps festive decor around her family's yellow Lab, Katie. Both were seen later in the Decorated Bike Show.



SARAH MASON — The Daily Astorian

Thirty-five bikers paraded down Main Avenue in Warrenton Friday for the Decorated Bike Show. Trisha Cole, who will take on the project next year, is sitting shotgun in the surrey.



SARAH MASON — The Daily Astorian

America's 238th birthday party in Warrenton was complete with food, candy, balloons, streamers and even clowns. The Astoria Clowns popped wheelies and greeted kids lined up on Main Avenue in Warrenton for the Fourth of July.

Another Great 4th of July in Warrenton!

**Grand Marshal
Don**

By Cindy Yingst
Warrenton 4th of July
Parade Organizer

There were about 100 entries in the parade (from 11), for instance, you could at the individual who participating in the the show/parade, who individual the truck and each dressed up and with guitars.

We had 16 entries in the Queen of Show and about 10 more entries in the Miss Cyclo America.

The Coolest Vehicle trophy was given to the Tracy & Dennis Biers on their 1921 Ford Model A roadster. The Queen competition was up in second place.

The Custom Motorcycle trophy went to another custom, custom-built, vintage Harley-Davidson.

Three young children participated in the Kid's Discoball Show (mom also rode in the competition) all of them received a participation ribbon.



Trophy winners:

The Sweepstakes Award, chosen by Mayor Mark Kujala, went to **Hampton Lumber Mill's Warrenton Division**, which brought some impressively decorated equipment

Warrenton Award for best group entry went to the **Wishing Tree Program**

Astoria Award for best float went to the **Astoria Regatta Festival's "Sail On" entry**

The **Hammy Award** for best light-hearted entry went to **Fur & Feathers 4-H Club** for its 30 club members who brought their small livestock dressed up in patriotic attire

The **Clatsop Award** for best business or municipal entry went to the **Astoria/Warrenton/Seaside KOA**

More parade photos on page 8

Columbia Press 2014

JULY 2014

BOW-WOW! 5



SPOTTED!

at the WARRENTON 4th of JULY PARADE

SMALL TOWN BIG PARADE





September 18, 2014
9-234-R2

For more information: Lou Torres (503)986-2880
email at: <mailto:louis.c.torres@odot.state.or.us>

Paving on OR 105 and 105A (E. Harbor Dr. and Marlin Ave.) in Warrenton to begin on Tuesday, September 23

WARRENTON – A contractor working for the Oregon Department of Transportation will begin paving OR 105, OR 105A in Warrenton beginning on Tuesday evening, September 23. The paving is night time work from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Saturday morning, September 27. The work is weather dependent. The paving preservation project will address the deteriorated highway surface conditions.

Crews will pave OR 105A (E. Harbor Dr.) from its junction with U.S. 101 to OR 105 (Marlin Ave) and from there on OR 105 (Marlin Ave.) west to the Skipanon River Bridge in Warrenton. Crews will also pave the portion of OR 105 (Marlin Ave.) from the intersection of East Harbor Dr. for approximately 1,200 feet.

During most of the work, two-way traffic will be controlled by flaggers with up to 20 minute delays. However, on the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday, September 23 and 24, OR105A (E. Harbor Dr.) will be closed from U.S. 101 to Marlin Avenue. Motorist are encouraged to use alternate routes.

Know Before You Go

For the latest road conditions, visit: www.tripcheck.com

##ODOT##

Local ODOT contact:

Kevin Werst 503.861.5657

Or email at: kevin.werst@odot.state.or.us

Warrenton officer resignation accepted

8.19.2014

By ALLY MCENTIRE
The Daily Astorian

The city of Warrenton and Warrenton Police Department accepted the resignation of an officer arraigned Aug. 12, after he was allegedly found arranging the sale of firearms as a private citizen.

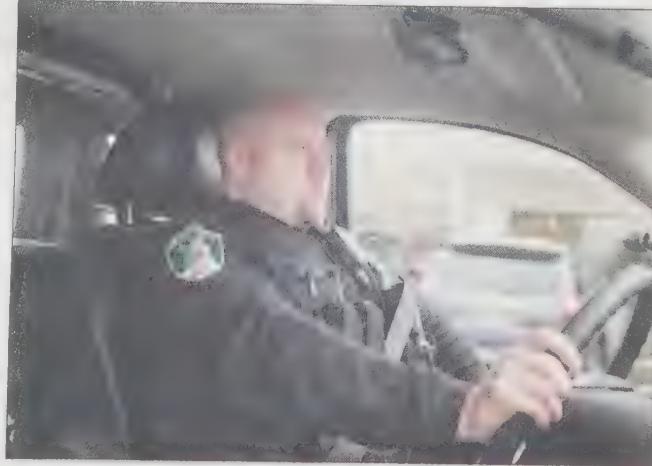
Ray P. Ayers, who plead not guilty on all charges in arraignment, turned in a letter of resignation Aug. 7, and City Manager Kurt Fritsch accepted.

Ayers was charged with Aggravated Felony B Theft 1, Felony C Theft, Misdemeanor A Forgery 2, tampering with physical evidence and official misconduct.

Police Chief Mathew Workman said the hiring process will begin as soon as possible. Decisions still need to be made about whether the city will hire someone already certified through the police academy or not.

"If we hire someone not certified, the process will be more extensive," Workman said.

"The officer we hired last November just finished the academy a month ago and



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

Warrenton Police Officer Ray Ayers has resigned from the Warrenton Police Department. His resignation has been accepted.

won't start until September."

The loss of a police-force member won't impact hiring so much as it affects the department now. Right now WPD has eight working officers. When the trainee begins they will still be one short.

"It gets really tough when you take one person out," Workman said.

"I've covered a ton of day shifts this year to make up."

Workman said it's hard to hire someone and know what their actions will be in the

future. Psychological evaluations and written tests are done to prevent similar situations, but they are not psychic.

"A plumber does something like this and it's not big news, but a cop does and it is big news — and it should be," Workman said.

"We are held to a higher standard because we should know better, but cops are still human."

Ayers' next hearing will be a final resolution conference at 2 p.m. Oct. 29

Road crews are busy this week; closures scheduled

Clatsop County crews are striping all county roads beginning through Tuesday, and herbicide application is taking place throughout the county, as well.

Excavation is planned to improve sight distance at the intersection of Youngs River Loop and the Olney cutoff, and mowing is scheduled in Astoria and Knappa districts.

For information, contact Clatsop County Public Works at 503-325-8631.

Also next week, a contractor working for the Oregon Department of Transportation is paving Oregon Highway 105 and 105A in Warrenton, beginning Tuesday, to repair deteriorated highway surface conditions. The paving is night-time work, from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m., and goes through the morning of Sept. 27. Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, Oregon 105A is closed from U.S. 101 to Marlin Avenue. Motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes.

Crews are paving Oregon 105A (E. Harbor Drive) from its junction with U.S. Highway 101 to Oregon 105 (Marlin Avenue), and from there west to the Skipanon River Bridge in Warrenton. Crews are also paving the portion of Oregon 105 from the intersection of East Harbor Drive for approximately 1,200 feet. During most of the work, two-way traffic is being controlled by flaggers, and up to 20 minute delays can be expected. The work is weather dependent.

Work continues on the Astoria Bridge. The project involves recoating the steel above the bridge deck on the southern side of the Columbia River bridge along U.S. 101 north of Astoria.

The scheduled work includes installation of the containment structures and painting the bridge steel above the bridge deck. Flaggers control single-lane traffic. Lane delays of up to 20 minutes are allowed anytime on weekdays and weekends.

Bridge rehabilitation work takes place on the Necanicum River (Black) Bridge, including placing a new concrete overlay on the bridge surface and installing scour protection at the bridge bents underneath the structure. The bridge is on U.S. Highway 26 (Sunset Highway, mile posts 4.37 to 4.48, approximately

four miles east of its intersection with U.S. Highway 101 (Oregon Coast Highway).

The contractor is performing bridge coating and rail installation, and landscaping and seeding are scheduled to be installed. Flaggers control single-lane traffic, and delays of up to 20 minutes can be expected.

Recoating the steel below the bridge deck takes place on U.S. Highway 101 at the Necarney Creek (Sam Reed) Bridge (Oregon Coast Highway, mile post 39.53).

Work includes the installation of containment structures and painting the bridge below the bridge deck. Flaggers control single-lane traffic from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 7:30 a.m. to noon Friday. Expect delays of up to 20 minutes.

Slide repair work is being performed along U.S. Highway 101 south of Seaside at Peterson Point, mile post 23.9.

The scheduled work includes temporary widening of the roadway and performing the slide repair along the southbound shoulder of the highway. Flaggers control single lane traffic, and delays of up to 20 minutes can be expected.

Bridge rehabilitation work is being performed at both the Old Youngs Bay and Lewis & Clark River bridges along U.S. Highway 101 Business (mile posts 4.78 and 6.89).

Work includes the con-

tractor mobilizing to the project site. Flaggers will control single lane traffic. Expect delays of up to 20 minutes.

The Oregon State Police enforces the speed limit through the work zone areas.

For information, call 5-1-1 or go to www.tripcheck.com or www.odotproject.info

* * *

US101(Bus.): Old Youngs Bay & Lewis & Clark River Bridges

(Warrenton - Astoria Highway, mile post 4.78 and 6.89)

This project consists of

performing bridge rehabilitation work at both the Old Youngs Bay and Lewis & Clark River Bridges along US101(Bus.).

The scheduled work includes the Contractor mobilizing to the project site. Flaggers will control single lane traffic during construction activities as required.

Expect delays of up to 20 minutes and drive through the area with caution. Oregon State Police will be enforcing the speed limit through the work zone area. The project is scheduled to be completed in November 2017.

9-22-2014

2014

Harbor
Marlin Ave.

Kujala is last appointed city mayor

Warrenton voters will decide next year's mayor

By CHELSEA GORROW
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Warrenton City Commission appointed Mayor Mark Kujala to continue serving as mayor for his second consecutive year.

This will be the last year the commission appoints one of its own to the position. Later this year, the voters will decide the mayor for 2015.

Kujala thanked commission members for their support to continue what will be his third year as mayor. He previously served in 2011; Commissioner Dick Hellberg served in 2012, before 2013 brought it back to Kujala.

"I'd like to throw my hat into the ring," Kujala said before the vote. "I've enjoyed being mayor last year and I certainly have enjoyed working with the City Commission and the city staff. I think we've accomplished a lot in the last year and I look forward to continuing the progress we have made in 2013 to 2014."



Mark
Kujala

1.15.2014

Kujala: Hellberg announces final year

Continued from Page 1A

Commissioners Henry Balensifer, Tom Dyer, Mark Baldwin and Kujala voted for Kujala; Hellberg abstained. Balensifer was voted vice chairman for his second year in a row. Dyer, Kujala and

He said it will be his last year on the commission. His seat will become the seat filled on the commission by an elected mayor.

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1.15.2014



Kujala: Hellberg announces final year

Continued from Page 1A

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Balensifer voted for Balensifer; Baldwin voted for himself; Hellberg abstained.

"I'd like to put my hat in for vice chair," Balensifer said. "I feel as I have done a good job last year. I've made extensive contacts with federal, state, as well as local

officials. ... I think I deserve a second turn as vice-chair as well." He also announced his engagement to be married.

Hellberg made it clear that he did not wish to be considered, unlike previous years.

He said it will be his last year on the commission. His seat will become the seat filled on the commission by an elected mayor.

Local voters decided in the November 2012 election to vote in a mayor in November this year.

City of Warrenton starts overhaul of marina

By Mike Williams

Coast River Business Journal

mwilliams@crbizjournal.com

WARRENTON — Warrenton's marinas are enjoying a renaissance with upgrades, new looks and potentially a new mission for one facility.

The Columbia River Bar Pilots purchased the Skipanon Marina in 2013. The sale closed in January.

Capt. Wayne Stoltz of the Columbia River Bar Pilots said the company is in the planning and permitting stages for the Skipanon Marina and declined to comment further.

The Warrenton Marina, owned by the City of Warrenton, has seen about 50 years of service. That's why the city's rebuilding it from top to bottom. And by bottom they mean the very bottom.

The plan includes dredging, along with replacing the docks and building a new headquarters.

Visitors to the marina will notice the new buildings rising in the southwest corner of the property.

It's more than just a new office facility, Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala said. "It's a headquarters, a showcase for the marina," he said.

The new facility will replace the current harbormaster's office and the public restroom and shower buildings. It will have two 900 square foot buildings, City Manager Kurt Fritsch said.

They should be completed by late summer or early fall, he added.

It's budgeted at just under \$480,000, Kujala said.

Gene Kane, owner of Tackle Time Charters and Bait Shop, is unimpressed with the plan.

He's had the shop in Warrenton for 30 years and currently has three boats operating out of the marina.

"I do live bait tuna, I do halibut, I do salmon in the ocean, salmon in the river," he said. "We do crabbing in the fall."

His 43-foot *Delta* can accommodate 27 people.

He's unimpressed with the marina's maintenance.

"I've been there 45 years out of this marina, and I've never seen a change yet other than a new office or a new restroom," he said. "Our docks are exactly the same as they



New docks are included in Warrenton Marina upgrade plans. — MIKE WILLIAMS PHOTO

were back then as they are now. They're dilapidated, deteriorated and ready to fall in the river. I had to catch a few of my clients coming off of the boat last year because the dock slanted over so far they were gonna go right into the marina, some elderly people."

Kane said the liability would be his in case of a lawsuit, but "you know who's going to hear about it — it's the City of Warrenton and the marina."

Kujala said the projects and the priority of the projects was recommended by the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee under the guidance of a consultant.

"That was the priority they selected and we went along with that as being one of many," he said, "so we will be

working on the docks, it's just as far as the timing, this was the project that was in the queue to get accomplished first."

Also on the list are power, water and sewer upgrades.

Dredging is high on the list for the marina.

Pacific Seafoods paid to dredge the mouth of the Skipanon River in the fall, Kujala said. That came to about \$250,000. The city paid for permit processing.

The city hopes to fold marina dredging in with a \$1.62 million Army Corps of Engineers project to dredge the rest of the river.

"For me it's a big priority," Kujala said. "I'd like to see it real soon. The commercial and recreational docks really need it."

Warrenton commissioners say public is informed

Tansy Point debate grows

Baldwin: 'Don't make any assumptions on where this started or where this is going'

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — More popular recently because of Warrenton Fiber Company-Nygaard Logging's interest in acquiring Tansy Point, Warrenton City Commissioners stressed at a Tuesday meeting that discussion on the company's offer has only just begun.

The company, a joint venture of the Nygaard family since 1999, offered the city of Warrenton 20 acres and a new Public Works facility on Dolphin Avenue in exchange for 43 acres of Tansy Point the city owns. The company's offer piqued local interest and opposition. Some residents even asked for a ballot measure to decide whether or not to sell.

5.28.2014

"Don't make any assumptions on where this started or where this is going," said Commissioner Mark Baldwin, adding that the city commission would have faced more criticism for not listening to the Nygaards' offer.

He and other commissioners were adamant that the public has been kept abreast of everything and that nothing has been decided.

In 1977, Eben Carruthers, inventor of tuna canning equipment, and his wife Nancy deeded three parcels of the Tansy Point property to the city, with certain restrictions of use, including a parcel for the Eben H. Carruthers Memorial Park. Part of the reason was to avoid the property being condemned.

Part of the land is leased to Warrenton Fiber through December 2035. It currently earns \$8,180 a month from the lease until next fall, when it nearly doubles. The monthly rent keeps growing by \$1,000 every five years until it tops \$19,000 in 2031. The city is expected to earn about \$4.5 million between now and the end of the lease.

City commissioners, who received the company's offer April 22, scheduled a work session to hear about the plan. They're adamant that the public is being kept involved and that they're considering the long-term interests of the city.

Mayor Mark Kujala said that after the recent Daily Astorian article was published, he wanted to make several clarifications, including:

- Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is not involved in the deal. Warrenton leaders and the Nygaards have infor-

mally agreed to include language stating such, although residents still harbor doubts about what can be restricted once the land is in private hands.

- The land being discussed has no restrictions of use on it. In 1986, the city bought Tansy Point from the Carruthers' heirs for \$81,200, lifting the restrictions of use on the land.

- Any potential sale wouldn't affect sewer or water rates, which are part of the city's enterprise funds. The lease payments from Warrenton Fiber supplement the city's general fund, used for operations.

Costs of modernizing

"We're not interested in LNG or any other crap. We're in the logging business," said patriarch Martin Nygaard, owner of Warrenton Fiber. The company employs about 140 people.

The Nygaard family representatives said the company needs ownership of the land to justify spending upward of \$4 million to rebuild a dock that's reached more than three-quarters of its intended lifespan and to pave its log yards for \$5 to \$7 million to mitigate storm water issues.

"We're trying to fix several long-term problems that both of us are going to face going forward here," said John Nygaard, son of Martin and co-founder of Nygaard Logging.

The 750-feet of dock it leases, he added, only has about six years of its prescribed lifespan left, and the city could avoid having to finance that. City Commissioner Dick Hellberg said there's a history of docks failing under public entities.

City Manager Kurt Fritsch said that it's advantageous

for Nygaard to own its property before investing, but added that they could already be responsible for repairs as the tenant of the property. John Nygaard responded that Warrenton Fiber has the right to exit its lease after a two-year notice, a clause built in because of its past investments in the dock.

New Public Works facility

Martin's grandson-in-law Adam Svensen, who owns North River Homes, detailed a new 4-acre Public Works facility included in 20 acres of graded land Warrenton Fiber would exchange with the city. The new facility would include 16,000 square feet of warehouse and office space and another 4,000 square feet for small truck parking, along with graded, graveled lots.

Svensen, reading from a script, said the new facility consolidates Public Works in one location; better preserves city vehicles from the elements with more covered parking; protects them from a tsunami by being on higher ground; and creates adequate office space for the city.

Pacific Building Systems, an Oregon firm that Svensen said built Ocean Crest Chevrolet, would build the new facility. The remaining 16 acres would be graded and ready for any use by the city.

The response

When the Warrenton City Commission started its public meeting, the chamber was packed with constituents — most of them opposed to any sale of Tansy Point.

They cited all the money the city receives in lease payments and the potential value of the land on an industrializ-

ing Columbia. The Dowaliby's, descendants of the Carruthers, said the family deeded the land to remain in the public's hands and protect it from condemnation. The family didn't keep any of the sale price in the 1980s, they put it all into the park, they said.

Some asked whether Tansy Point's potential sale should be put on the ballot, as the people of Warrenton own the public property. Hellberg and City Commissioner Henry Balen-sifer said they opposed sending it to election, which would bring in outside interests and

money and unnecessarily politicize the issue.

Kujala said the city now must get another appraisal on the property, check the health of the dock and otherwise research the proposal. He scheduled the next discussion of Tansy Point for July 24.

Rising Warrenton water rates questioned

Pacific Coast Seafood relocation to Astoria cited as reason

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

Most of the attention was on Tansy Point at Tuesday's Warrenton City Commission meeting. But resident Jacqueline Nichols wanted to know why her water rates increased last year and what the city is doing to get Pacific Coast Seafood back.

Warrenton lost the utility revenue from the seafood company when it moved to the Port of Astoria's North Tongue Point after its plant burned down in June.

"We have to find out what we can do to replace that gap in the water bill," said Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala. "We're

really stuck with replacing the \$250,000 loss."

The Commission approved the 5 percent increases to both the water and sewer rates June 25 in a 3-1 vote. Kujala and Commissioners Tom Dyer and Henry Balensifer voted yes to each of the increases. Commissioner Mark Baldwin voted no on each of the increases; Commissioner Dick Hellberg was absent.

The increases were expected to bring in an extra \$104,000. City Manager Kurt Fritsch estimated that the increase in the water rate would translate into a \$4.50 a month increase for a low-volume user. Baldwin said that if Pacific Coast Seafood comes back online, the city would look at adjusting rates again. Kujala added that the city's looked into lower rates for lower-volume users.

Since 2002, Warrenton has had two utility rate studies done, said Fritsch. The studies recommended raising water rates 10 percent and sewer 5 percent. The city

held off for 12 years and ultimately made a compromise.

The initial recommendation several years ago, the mayor said in June, was for a 40 percent increase in water rates. Instead, the commission has done incremental increases of 5 percent each year. The city is at about 25 percent of the 40 percent increase.

Meanwhile, the city has lost big customers in Gearhart, which opened its own water system in 2012 and took \$600,000 to \$700,000 a year in revenue with it; Camp Rilea, which took another \$125,000 from the city; and most recently, Pacific Coast Seafoods.

Not only has the hit affected water rates, said Fritsch, but it's reduced capital improvements to the city's infrastructure to almost nothing. "We've had to live on our ending balance, and that has become a very dangerous amount."

5.29.2014
See WATER, Page 7A

Water: Permitting, insurance issues delay rebuilding

Continued from Page 1A

Nichols said she's a senior citizen on a fixed income, and questioned why residents have to cover the loss of revenue from the

Pacific Coast Seafood fire. Kujala earlier explained how utilities rest in enterprise funds and are run like a business, dependent on breaking even with their own revenue, which took a massive hit

with the fire.

"What is the city doing to help them come back into this community?" asked Nichols.

Kujala said the city remains in weekly contact with Pacific Coast Seafood,

which meets regularly with its permitting and planning department. "We're ready to assist them in their rebuild.

"They have some issues with insurance; they have some issues with the engi-

neering of a new buildings; and of course the permitting will be something they will have to wrestle with."

Company representatives, not immediately available for comment, have said

the plan is to stay in Warrenton, although they're still working through permitting, insurance and engineering, which could become prohibitive to restarting on the Skagit River.



Original
Astoria Town
Car - Now lives
in Hammond



7-4-2014
S.W. 1ST
Warrenton, Or.

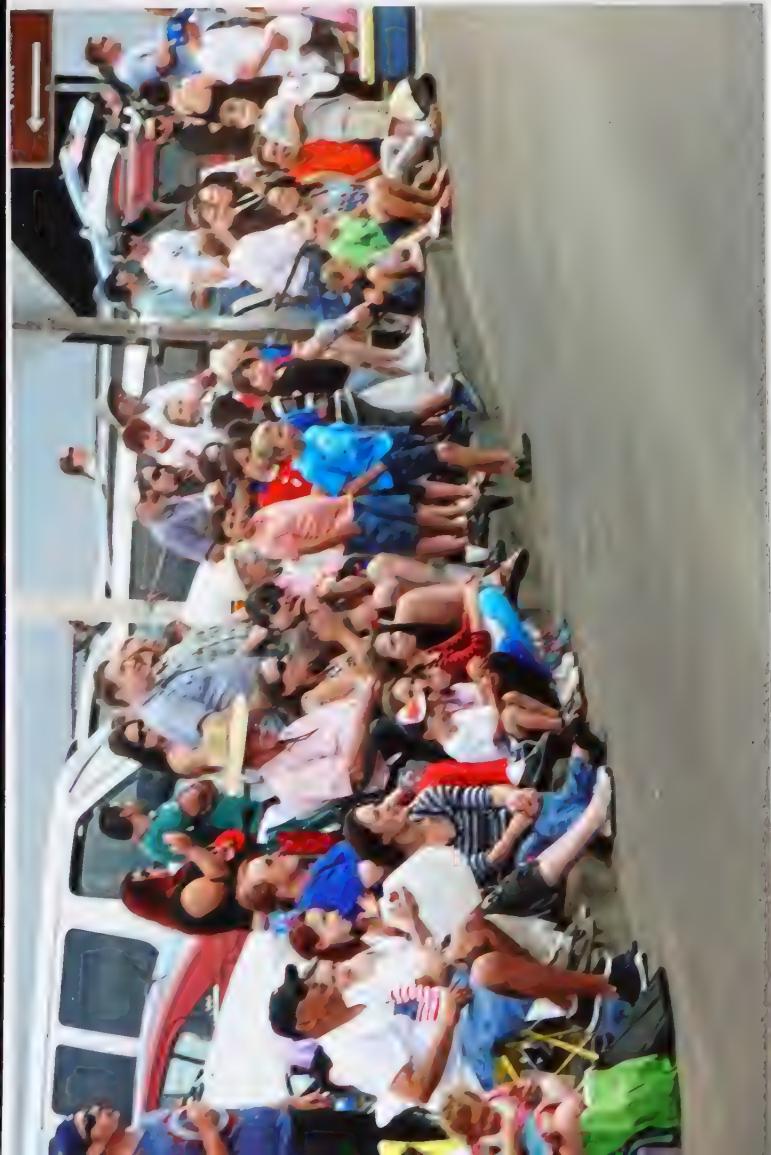




Original
Astoria Clown
Car - Now lives
in Hammond



7.4.2014
S.W. 1ST
Warrenton, OR.





M'Gaddens Fireworks 2014



Warrenton commission tables talk of Tansy Point

By TED SHORACK
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Consideration of the proposed Tansy Point property swap and sale agreement between the city of Warrenton and Warrenton Fiber Company will have to wait until the next City Commission meeting in August.

In the meantime, however, a group of residents began a process Monday that seeks to amend the city charter and require voter approval for the sale or transfer of public property worth \$100,000 or more.

Mayor Mark Kujala suggested to commissioners at their regular meeting Wednesday that they hold off on discussing the Tansy Point proposal until Commissioner Dick Hellberg is able to return home.

"Commissioner Hellberg wanted to participate in the discussion, so I've given him my assurance that we'll conduct the discussion when he is present," Kujala told commissioners and citizens in attendance. City commissioners agreed to table the discussion until a future meeting.

On Monday, Ken Yuill and other

residents submitted an initiative to the city proposing a ballot title that would ask voters to amend the charter and prohibit city commissioners from selling, trading or the long-term lease of property that is valued at \$100,000 or more in 2014 dollars.

Yuill, the chief petitioner of the initiative, spoke to commissioners Wednesday about why residents had filed.

"There is a group of us that feel we need to take this to the city voters," he said. Some people felt that just as the city has a budget committee made up of citizens to review expenditures, it should have the same involvement with selling property, he said.

"This is not an attempt to delay this whatsoever," Yuill said, regarding the Tansy Point proposal. "We just want to try and get it to the people."

Warrenton Fiber Company has offered the city 20 acres off Dolphin Road and a new Public Works facility in exchange for the 43 acres at Tansy Point, which the city has leased to the company through December 2035. The company's offer was received by the city April 22. The property was deeded to the city

in 1977 by Eben and Nancy Caruthers.

The citizen initiative is being reviewed by the city's legal counsel to determine its constitutionality. If it meets the requirements, backers have a short window to obtain the required signatures for the November general election ballot. They'll have to get about 415 signatures — 15 percent of the registered voters in Warrenton — for it to be on the ballot. However, the group has two years from the time of the submission to bring it forward for voter consideration.

In other news:

- After concerns about an increase in rates from Western Oregon Waste, commissioners heard from a company representative about how the company plans to retrofit its containers so that they stay closed when blown down by wind. The city commissioners adopted an adjustment to the residential service rates to meet expenses in the sanitation fund, accepting the increase to \$6.94 a month.

- The city commissioners also passed a resolution updating the Warrenton Park Advisory Board members' terms of office.



Dredging
the
Skagit River
Oct. 2014



TAKE A HIKE!



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

A man walks along the Warrenton Waterfront Trail Tuesday. The Warrenton Trails Association recently set its sights on transforming into the Clatsop County Trail Initiative, a regional trail association that would expand the scope of the group countywide.

Warrenton Trails expands mission countywide

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Warrenton Trails Association, a grassroots non-profit formed in 2003, has spent the past dozen years developing a 25-mile loop through Warrenton and cultivating partnerships with state and national parks and other local organizations.

The group recently set its sights on transforming into the Clatsop County Trail Initiative, a regional trail association that would expand the scope of the group countywide.

Having the group become a regional trail association would allow it to collaborate on a larger scale throughout the county, WTA Chairwoman Tessa Scheller said.

"We will focus on our region," Scheller said. "We really see trail routes from Arch Cape all the way to Knappa."

This past summer, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park Superintendent Scott Tucker suggested the grassroots organization apply for a technical assistance grant from the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program. The program supports community-led outdoor recreation projects across the country.

"At Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, our business is



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

A portion of the Warrenton Waterfront Trail goes through Carruthers Memorial Park. Members of the Warrenton Trails Association say that transforming into a regional association would help create trails through areas of multiple jurisdictions.

sharing the North Coast's history with local communities, tourists and travelers; therefore, I extend our support to the endeavor and pledge National Parks Service participation in the newly created advisory group," Tucker wrote in a letter of support.

The group sent an application in August and was awarded the RTCA support in October.

Alexandra Stone, an RTCA program coordinator, will work directly with the local group over the year to open communication with community partners and develop

fundraising and grant writing.

WTA's past achievements and leadership in Clatsop County helped the group earn the National Park Service's technical assistance, Stone said.

"When we get the request, we are looking for some demonstration of capacity and willingness that is often demonstrated by past success," Stone said.

In its application, WTA had support from Tucker, Clatsop County Public Health, Friends of Astoria Natural Areas, Angora Hiking Club, Clatsop County Board of

Commissioners and the cities of Astoria, Warrenton, Seaside, Cannon Beach and Gearhart.

Scheller, who helped start WTA more than a decade ago, said plans for the regional trail association are still in the early stages, but some goals are already being discussed.

As a countywide group, Scheller said, the regional association would help create trails through areas of multiple jurisdictions such as trails on private, state and federal land.

See TRAILS, Page 10A

Trails: Regional trail association may help address varying interests

Continued from Page 1A

One example is a potential trail from Seaside to Warrenton, which would go through the dunes that are owned by private citizens and the state. Having a regional group could help address the varying interests, Scheller said.

"Because there are so many jurisdictions and agencies, I see a place for collaborative work from state agencies and nonprofits," Scheller said. "We are focused where we are invited."

Building new trails is a large part of the regional trail association. Scheller sees

new trails not just for hiking, but for bicyclists, equestrian groups and even those interested in live action role play, or LARP.

"We are happy to see a number of ways to get people out and about," she said.

Steven Blakesley, Clatsop County public health promotion specialist, said a regional trail association would be an asset to the county and give a stronger voice to decisions about the cities and county's transportation plans.

"It's bringing health into more policies and having more connected bike paths and walking paths that obvi-

ously help our overall health," he said.

Blakesley, along with Tucker, helped the WTA apply for the National Park Service assistance.

Blakesley said the need for a regional trail association became apparent in 2013, when he, Tucker and Scheller partnered with others to create the NW Coast Trail Map and Guide. The detailed map, available at warrentontrails.org, outlines all hiking trails in Clatsop County. It also shows how many different jurisdictions have trails and the fact that not one trail goes directly through the county.

"We really needed a regional trails organization," Blakesley said.

Last month, Stone hosted an initial conference call with the local partners. No work plan has been lined out yet, Stone said, and everyone is still getting organized. The focus is on team building and ways to get the community involved. A lot will be accomplished in the next year, she said.

"Very soon we are going to want to get as many people with interest in trails together as possible," Stone said. "The call will hopefully be very soon and very wide."



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

A man strolls along the Warrenton Waterfront Trail on Tuesday. Building new trails is a big part of the association according to Warrenton Trail Association Chairwoman Tessa Scheller.

Warrenton voters to pick first elected mayor

By ALLY McENTIRE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — For the first time, voters in Warrenton will select their mayor, choosing between two current commissioners on Election Day to serve the city for the next four years.

Mark Kujala is the current mayor; he was appointed by the other commissioners last year with the customary term of one year. Mark Baldwin holds Seat 4 on the commission. In November 2012, almost 90 percent of Warrenton voters said yes to amending the city charter to put the office of mayor on the ballot and extend the term from one year to four.

The amendment also designated Seat 5 as the mayoral position because current Seat 5 holder, Dick Hellberg, is not running for re-elec-



tion when his term expires at the end of the year.

Leadership styles

Although the mayor's vote does not hold more sway, Baldwin said he believes the mayor has stronger influence over issues and is heard more than the other commissioners.

"That person dictates what gets done," he said and Baldwin wanted to make sure voters had options.



Mark
Baldwin

Mark
Kujala

"The poll last (election) showed they wanted to vote for their mayor," he said. "I'm happy in the position I was at. Basically I just wanted them to have a choice."

Baldwin admits to being "not as polished as (Kujala)," but said he has a bit more passion and will never ask anyone to do something he wouldn't personally do.

"I lead by example," he said. "I ex-

pect a lot of myself, so I expect a lot of others."

Kujala said his broader interests and wider focus separate him from Baldwin.

"I've established relationships with other cities in our community," he said. "I plan to build off what I've already done and make those bonds even stronger."

Both candidates said listening to any idea that comes their way is a key aspect of being mayor.

Platforms

Both candidates have created goals for the commission that they believe will improve Warrenton.

Kujala's urban renewal plan is progressing with marina development and grant money to improve business facades.

10.16.2014

See WARRENTON, Page 10A

Warrenton: Both candidates satisfied with Wal-Mart's entry into the city

MARK BALDWIN

Age: 47
Address: 1230 S.W. Cedar Drive
Occupation: General contractor
Education: Diploma from Warrenton High School
Years in Warrenton: Life
Experience: City commissioner 2010-present
Affiliations: Sponsor of University of Oregon, 2013 National Rifle Association sponsor, member of Oregon hunters, supporter of anything in the city that wants or needs his help outside of the City Commission

Key Issues: Levee certification, Warrenton fire rating, managing current city assets in a fiscally responsible manner

MARK KUJALA

Age: 44
Address: 311 S.E. Galena St.
Occupation: Owner of Skipanon Brand Seafood
Education: Diploma from Warrenton High School, Bachelor of Science from Oregon State University in Business

Years in Warrenton: Life except college attendance
Experience: Warrenton city commissioner 2005-present; vice chair 2006-2010, 2012; mayor in 2011, 2013, 2014

Affiliations: Past president of the Warrenton Sunrise Rotary Club, board member of Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce, Clatsop County Community College Foundation Board of Directors member, 4-H extension board member

Key Issues: Public safety, jobs and economic development, education, urban renewal, levee certification

Water losses

Solving the city water fund deficit after losing Camp Rilea and Gearhart's business and the Pacific Coast Seafood plant fire is a key issue.

System development charges (SDC) are the best option in Baldwin's opinion. These are fees which would apply to new industrial, commercial and residential developments and are usually translated into construction costs.

"I'm a builder, so they do affect me," Baldwin said.

He said the bigger a new development, the more water will be used. So businesses like Wal-Mart would make up larger portions of the loss.

However, the growth that makes SDCs work would only soften the blow, according to Kujala.

"I would like to see Pacific Seafoods back in Warrenton," he said.

He said this is the best solution, but there are obstacles to the rebuilding. The last thing he said he wants is to have the residents absorb the loss.

Past actions

With both candidates' history on the commission, it is easy to see where they

stand on the issues that have arisen.

Both voted in favor of taxing recreational marijuana to prevent its sale within Warrenton city limits.

Both have agreed to look at all the merits of the liquefied natural gas proposal before making a decision.

They both opposed selling Tansy Point to Warrenton Fiber. Kujala was not supportive of the proposal and Baldwin said he didn't think the two properties were equal in value.

Both said they feel the nuisance ordinance has been used well within Warrenton, though Baldwin said he thinks there could be somewhat stronger implementation in some areas and more community volunteer efforts in other places.

Both were satisfied with Wal-Mart's entry into the city. Baldwin said the company will bring similar volumes of people to town like Costco. Kujala said there wasn't much of a decision for the commission to make; the application

was submitted to the Planning Commission, required changes were made and the process worked the way it should.

For Kujala, the biggest issue in Warrenton right now is public safety and he said he believes the mayor plays a big role in coordinating that.

Baldwin's closing thought was that he's a straightforward candidate.

"I'm not going to lie to you to get your vote," he said. But, he said he will listen to voters to make up his mind on issues.

If Baldwin is selected, he will be mayor and Kujala will retain Seat 1 on the commission. If Kujala remains mayor, his current spot will have a commissioner-appointed placeholder through 2016, when the Seat 1 term ends. Baldwin's term ends at the end of this year, which is why his seat is up for election and Kujala's is not.

Both candidates will appear at the Warrenton Candidate Forum hosted by the Warrenton Business Association at 6 p.m. Oct. 22.

PAM ACKLEY

Age: 53
Address: 1570 S.W. Pine Court
Occupation: Realtor with Windermere Stellar
Education: Hillsboro High School, two years at Portland Community College studying business
Time in Warrenton: 23 years
Affiliations: Clatsop Association of Realtors, director for Warrenton-Hammond Healthy Kids Inc.

Prior Experience: 13 years in customer service, Clatsop Association of Realtors board of directors from 2005-2011, President in 2009, team-building at Portland Teachers Credit Union (now OnPoint) and TLC Credit Union, various customer service programs in training, marketing and interpersonal relationship skills

Key Issues: More living-wage jobs in Warrenton, attracting new business and industry, supporting fishing and forestry, solving the community drug crisis

RICHARD FRISBEE

Age: 56
Address: Warrenton Marina, P.O. Box 961
Occupation: Disabled Navy veteran
Education: Electronics and Information Systems Technology through the Navy and study at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood, Wash.

Time in Warrenton: Seven to eight years
Prior Experience: Remote software facility contractor in Washington

Key Issues: Marina improvements, city fees, city property sales, veteran and military commission representation

DAVID GOLDTHORPE

Age: 33
Address: 1130 Willow Drive
Occupation: Clatsop County deputy district attorney

Time in Warrenton: 4 1/2 years
Education: Bachelor of arts in English from Brigham Young University and a Juris Doctor from Willamette University

Prior Experience: Representative at the Oregon State Bar House of Delegates from 2011 to present, Budget Committee for Warrenton-Hammond School District, treasurer and den leader of Warrenton Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts

Affiliations: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Eagle Scout

Key Issues: Community safety, right businesses in Warrenton, at the right time

RICK NEWTON

Age: 61
Address: 765 S.W. Eighth St.
Occupation: Owner of NAPA Auto Parts in Warrenton
Time in Warrenton: 59 years lived or worked

Education: Associates degree from Clatsop Community College, studied at Portland State University
Experience: One year (2014) on the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and Budget Committee

Affiliations: Member of the Elks Lodge, Rainland Flycasters Club, Warrenton Kiwanis

Key Issues: "To do the best job I can"

Four compete for Warrenton city seat

Development, infrastructure and social issues key matters in hotly contested slot

By ALLY McENTIRE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The issues facing the Warrenton City Commission in the coming year run the gamut from Wal-Mart to LNG to pot to city lands.

Candidates for City Commission



Pam
Ackley



Richard
Frisbee



David
Goldthorpe



Rick
Newton

Seat 4 — vacated by Mark Baldwin in his run for mayor — are preparing for the forum at 6 p.m. in Warrenton City Hall Oct. 22.

Richard Frisbee was the first to file for the seat on Aug. 18. The oth-

er three candidates — Pam Ackley, David Goldthorpe and Rick Newton — filed on the last day, Aug. 26.

Each candidate has a platform, but for Ackley and Newton, the reason to run was multiple requests



from other Warrenton residents. Goldthorpe said his daily motivation is to serve the community and being commissioner is a good way to supplement that. Frisbee said, in addition to his concerns about city fees, he thinks the commission needs veteran and military representation.

Many of the issues Warrenton faces have opposition elsewhere in the county. Filtering those voices and deciding what is best for the Warrenton community will be key for the next commissioner.

Commercial growth and Wal-Mart

For some in the northwest, the idea of Wal-Mart is repugnant. Newton has vowed never to set foot in Wal-Mart. But, he said it's impossible to discriminate against businesses wanting to build along U.S. Highway 101.

"I choose where I buy, even if I

See WARRENTON, Page 10A

pay," Newton said. "I would prefer we had businesses that had full-time jobs."

Wal-Mart is "off our plate, it's a done deal," Ackley said. She echoed Newton's opinion; one of her main running points is bringing more living-wage jobs to Warrenton. "If we're going to have more commercial businesses come into town, it should be a business that offers full-time pay and benefits," she said.

Ackley suggested bringing Whole Foods or New Seasons grocery stores to Warrenton.

Unlike the other candidates, Goldthorpe is thrilled Wal-Mart is moving in. He said part-time jobs are sometimes all a person is able to do, and those jobs are just as valuable.

"Any kind of job is better than lack thereof," he said.

Both Goldthorpe and Newton see commercial growth as something that doesn't need to be instigated, but controlled.

"Growth is going to happen," Goldthorpe said. "The best way is to develop as a whole, instead of just for business."

Downtown is being updated mostly to attract tourists, Frisbee said, and he added the city is doing a good job.

"Now the marina needs to be fixed up to slow (tourists) going through," he said. "I don't believe in bringing in a bunch of heavy industry. We have enough noise and enough different smells."

Warrenton Marina

Frisbee notices issues almost immediately at the marina: He lives on a houseboat in the Warrenton Mooring Basin.

He said besides various temporary fixes and lack of oversight at the marina, there are discrepancies in fees being charged for boat sizes and types. Some people aren't charged, Frisbee said.

His attention to the fees also revealed issues with the Marina Master Plan, which was approved in 2010 and, he said, is too late to change.

"Can't do it now," he said. "The office and bathrooms are not where they're supposed to be."

Newton said the current shape of the commercial dock is his biggest concern at the marina.

"Do I want to fix it? Yes," he said. "Do I know how to get the money to fix it? No."

According to Frisbee, money earned at the marina through mooring fees and launching permits doesn't go directly back into the marina, but into a general fund.

Ackley said she has been involved in commercial fishing since moving to Warrenton. Though she would like to see more commerce around the marina, repairs will always be necessary.

"It's amazing what they have done," Ackley said. "It's a far cry from what it used to be."

Marina repairs and updates, including the Master Plan, are currently being done through urban-renewal funds.

Urban Renewal

Newton is on the Urban Renewal committee and has hopes Warrenton can get a better boat ramp and RV park, similar to those in Hammond.

"I am concerned about the downtown area," he said. "I

need to go look at other towns to see what they've done."

He agreed with the commission's decision to create "bump outs" where existing power poles protrude out of the street.

"I would also like to see the city do a customer satisfaction survey," he said. "Not because I don't think employees are doing a good job, but I think it would bring customers and the city closer together."

Goldthorpe said he would like to see the urban-renewal projects continue, but for him and Ackley, the real kind of urban renewal they would like to see is funding for the fire and police departments.

"It's hard to get people to vote for more money to the Police Department and Fire Department," Ackley said. "We need a detective."

The City of Warrenton relies heavily on state troopers and the Clatsop County Sheriff's Department, Goldthorpe said, and that's not enough.

Nuisances and Marijuana

The city of Warrenton has been using its nuisance ordinance recently to not only encourage some property owners to clean up yards, but also to initiate fixes on more problematic houses, such as the one at 248 S.E. Anchor Ave. It was the object of a FBI SWAT team raid Sept. 4 that resulted in three arrests.

"There's a drug crisis in this community," Ackley said.

She would like to see more things for kids to do, like an indoor sports arena, especially as a part of the county's Way to Wellville initiative (<http://www.hiccup.co>).

"That's one or two kids you take out of the system," she said. But whatever is created to address the problem needs structure. "They need to sign in, sign out and have supervision. That way they have something to do instead of meth and pills."

Goldthorpe said the nuisance ordinance is "definitely a tool that needs to be used, but with great restraint."

The Warrenton Commission also passed a preemptive tax ordinance to discourage recreational marijuana from selling in town.

Frisbee said he isn't against it for medicinal purposes.

"I believe and have seen that herbal medicines do work," he said. "It's already proven to be safer" than morphine, Vicodin and codeines. "From everything I've seen, it's safer than alcohol."

But, he also doesn't think Warrenton Police should spend resources chasing down recreational users.

"They're not going to stop (marijuana)," he said. "It's not as big of a detriment to society as people think. Quit spending money busting them."

Newton supports keeping it out of Warrenton and said he tends to think of marijuana as a gateway drug.

"I think (the commission is) headed in the right direction," he said. "Who knows if the initiative will pass or not?"

In the meantime, he said he thinks the city is exercising as much power as they can to abate Warrenton nuisances.

Tansy Point and Ken Yuill

The Commission decided in August they would wait a bit longer before coming to a conclusion about selling Tansy Point. Some of the commissioners were interested in the proposal by Warrenton Fiber-Nygaard Logging to buy the property, which offered another plot of land in exchange and the promise of a new public works building there to balance the property values.

Public outcry resulted and the history of the property, which involved the donation of the land to the city and then a payment by the city for more flexible-use permissions, muddied the waters around the ownership and what constituted appropriate use.

Ken Yuill rallied some in the community, circulating a petition to prevent the sale of any city property over the value of \$100,000. For some candidates, this move made sense. Others think letting voters decide on sales like this, which are not limited to land, would delay processes unnecessarily.

Frisbee pledged his support for Yuill.

"Selling off city assets is the stupidest thing I've ever heard," he said. "Honor before money. They don't make property anymore. Why get rid of it?"

Newton said he understands Yuill's proposal, but also understands the business side of the issue.

"People have lost faith in the City Council," Newton said. He is anxious for the decision to come to a vote "so we can get to business."

He also said he supports the jobs created by Warrenton Fiber.

"Martin Nygaard employs a ton of people," he said. "They can feed their families."

The complications that Yuill's petition would create, if accepted, are unacceptable to Goldthorpe.

"No, not for a second," he said. "If we had to put that on a ballot every time, it would clog up the system."

He said the best method for public involvement is paying attention to city officials.

Ackley said she believes the city has, and is, doing everything that can be done about the proposal.

Making up for city water losses

Warrenton has lost water customers, including Camp Rilea, Gearhart and the Pacific Coast Seafood processing plant, and this has created a large hole in city funds. Camp Rilea and Gearhart switched to independent water supply systems. The Pacific Coast plant erupted in flames June 4, 2013, and the fire devastated the building. It is unknown if the company will return to Warrenton.

Looking at other cities' rates is something Newton plans to do, but hasn't done, yet.

Ackley plans to do thorough research to discover where improvements can be made.

"Doing a big tax or raising the water rates, a lot of long-time residents feel they are already

paying too much," she said.

Goldthorpe said he sees adding businesses as a good solution, but at some point, there is a dose of reality required.

"I hate to say rate increases," he said. "Of course the city should look for every alternative."

Panicking about the deficit is exactly what Warrenton needs to avoid, Frisbee said.

"If they go and make a deal, it will end up costing you in the end," he said. "We need to just wait a little while," he said.

LNG

Perhaps the most "buzz-worthy" topic in the Warrenton election is the possibility of bringing liquified natural gas to the city. None of the candidates are vehemently opposed to it coming to Warrenton, but each has reservations about best placement and practices.

For Ackley, public safety is of the utmost concern, but she said she has "to remain objective."

Frisbee agreed and said the 2- to 5-mile radius an LNG terminal requires isn't available in the proposed location, near the Warrenton Boat Basin.

"Safety is first," he said. "If it doesn't pass safety, I don't care about the rest of it. It's just illogical."

For now, Newton said he is also against it.

"I have not been sold on it being good for Warrenton," he said. "Everyone who doesn't live in Warrenton is against it."

The two sides need to be weighed well, Goldthorpe said. At the least, he said the decision made must be clear.

"It can't be left vague," he said. "We love our natural resources. It would have to be a very well-laid and thought-out plan."

The candidates for Seat 4 of the Warrenton City Commission will help shape the future of the community. The city is historically a community of fishermen and loggers, but that makeup has changed, and candidates offer different perspectives about how they are best suited to help Warrenton adapt.

CANDIDATES FORUM

6 p.m. Oct. 22 in Warrenton City Hall. Sponsored by the Warrenton Business Association.

Warrenton: Candidates will help shape future of the city



East Side
or
Skagit River
River
Oct. 2014

Warrenton City Commission begins 2015 with first mayor-elect and new commissioners

By Gary Nevan

In an historic event for the City of Warrenton, Mark Kujala was officially sworn-in as the first elected mayor of Warrenton at the Tuesday night city commission meeting. Kujala has served ten years on the commission and was appointed mayor for three of those years. Kujala defeated former City Commissioner Mark Baldwin in the November 2014 election for mayor.

Also sworn into office was Commissioner Rick Newton, who won a seat on the commission in November, defeating several challengers.

One of Newton's opponents in that election was Pam Ackley, who was appointed by the commission Tuesday night to become the Position #1 city commissioner. Ackley was the only applicant for the position. She will be sworn into office at the January 27 commission meeting.



Top right: Mark Kujala is sworn in as mayor by Warrenton City Manager Kurt Fritsch. Above: Rick Newton takes the oath as Warrenton city commissioner.

"I think Pam's experience will be beneficial to us as a group," said Kujala. "She has demonstrated passion and will bring a lot to our group."

In other city commission business:

- The city received a clean bill of financial health from the city's auditor with one warning that while the city shows a positive net position now, unfunded PERS could bring the city into a negative position next year.
- Debbie Morrow was appointed to the city budget committee position #1.
- The commission approved a lien of \$3,850 for clean-up costs associated with a former drug house at 248 SE Anchor Avenue.

"It's not likely we will ever collect," said City Manager Kurt Fritsch. "It's already heavily liened."

- The commission approved spending \$16,880 for a new walk-in freezer at the Warrenton Community Center. P&L Johnson was the low bidder for the project.

Pam Ackley sworn in as new city commissioner

By Gary Nevan

Pam Ackley officially joined the Warrenton City Commission Tuesday night as City Manager Kurt Fritsch administered the oath of office.

Ackley was appointed to the commission at the January 13 meeting.

"I thank the commission and the community for their support," she said. "I'm looking forward to serving on the commission."

Mayor Mark Kujala welcomed Ackley saying, "I think Pam and Rick (Newton) bring a lot of strengths to the commission. I think we have a strong commission moving forward."

In other commission business:

- A report about the Shoreline Sanitary District sewer hook-up to the city's system was given by the district's chairman, John Glen. The district has approximately 150 connections. Glen thanked the city for their help.

"It was the best longterm solution for us to hookup with the city,"

1.30.15 Continued on page 6



Ackley takes oath of office

Continued from page 1

he said. "I think it will be a good partnership."

The district will go out for bids on the project and construction could start as early as April, Glen said.

City Manager Kurt Fritsch said he enjoyed working with Glen on the project.

"John is one of the real gentlemen I've every worked with," he said. "I've really enjoyed working with you."

- The commission had a first reading of a Warrenton and Hammond

Marina rate resolution setting new rates and fees.

- Appointments were made to several city committees and boards. There are still a few open positions available.

They include: Two openings on the Parks Advisory Board; one opening on the Warrenton Business Association; and one opening on the Budget Committee.

Anyone interested in serving on any of those boards is encouraged to contact City Hall.

Mark Kujala appointed Mayor of Warrenton



Mayor Mark Kujala

By Gary Nevan

Mark Kujala has been appointed to serve as the new mayor of Warrenton. At their Tuesday night meeting, the Warrenton City Commission unanimously appointed Kujala to take over for longtime mayor Gil Gramson who lost to Mark Baldwin in the November election. Commissioner Dick Hellberg was appointed vice-chair.

Newly-elected Commissioner Mark Baldwin was sworn into office as was re-elected commissioner Dick Hellberg.

"I'm excited to get started and I'm looking forward to working with the other commissioners," Baldwin said. "I appreciate the support from the community and putting in the trust in me to do a good job."

In other city business:

- The Warrenton Business Association presented two Community Pride Awards to local businesses who have improved the look of Warrenton.

Don Patterson and Robert Fulton were honored for the remodel of the Warrenton Mini Mart, Fultano's Pizza and Bubba's Sports Bar complex.

Dr. Brad Pope was also honored for the new Bayshore Animal Hospital building on S.E. Marlin Avenue.

• The commission approved submitting a grant application to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept. Recreational Trails Program for completion of the Warrenton Trail from N.W. 13th Street (at Tansy Point) to Carruthers Park. The grant would be for \$75,000 with the City required to pay 20 percent of the cost (\$15,000).

The trail would be constructed in conjunction with the installation of a new 18-inch waterline extension.

Pat O'Grady spoke in opposition to the trail stating that he feared the trail located in an industrial area could hamper the business activity of Warrenton Fiber Company located at Tansy Point.

"I'm a big supporter of Warrenton Trails but I feel you will shoot a major business down," he said. "People will start to complain about traffic, dust and noise. Warrenton Fiber is a big business in Warrenton. They employ over 120 people. I think it's a very dangerous area to put a trail in."

Krista Bingham, a member of the Warrenton Trails Association, said the group was trying to improve the safety in the area.

"People are using it anyway," she said. "This connection to the trail is part of the Warrenton Trails Master Plan. This is a pivotal part of matching up the trail to Carruthers Park."

Commissioner Dick Hellberg said he wanted to move forward with the grant process but he didn't want to jeopardize an industry in Warrenton.

"There's got to be a solution for Warrenton Fiber and the trail association," he said. "It is dangerous, especially on Warrenton Drive."

Hellberg made a motion, which passed unanimously, that the city apply for the grant but construction of the trail extension wouldn't start until the commission

Continued on page 3

Commissioners want to fund another police position

Continued from page 1

and other affected parties are satisfied on how it will be built.

- Former Mayor Gil Gramson and Deon Harris were appointed to two vacant positions on the City of Warrenton Budget

Committee.

- Commissioner Frank Orrell stated he would like the city to fund another police officer position this year. One Warrenton police officer is serving overseas and another one is on extended

leave.

Commissioner Hellberg agreed that the funding of a police officer position should be a priority. He also encouraged members of the public to attend budget meetings.



Commissioners Mark Baldwin (top) and Dick Hellberg are sworn-in.

Warrenton City Manager Bob Maxfield to retire

By Gary Nevan

Bob Maxfield has announced he will retire as Warrenton's city manager.

Maxfield, who has been city manager for three and a half years, told the Warrenton City Commission at their Tuesday night meeting that he plans to retire on or about June 30, 2011.

In a prepared letter, Maxfield said, "It is clear to me that the City would be well served with a more energetic manager than I, due to the complexities of projects and issues that the City has been dealing with the past several years." Maxfield served as the city's police chief for five years.

prior to taking over as city manager.

Mayor Mark Kujala said he was sorry to see Maxfield leave.

"I've appreciated your service and wish you well," he said. "I would love to encourage you to stay. We will miss you very much."

Maxfield said he has enjoyed his time working for the City of Warrenton.

"It's been my pleasure to serve as police chief and city manager for the last eight and a half years," he said. "I've enjoyed my tenure. It's time for a new chapter and time to move on."

Editor's Note: Please see Mayor Mark Kujala's column about Bob Maxfield on page 4.

MAYOR'S CORNER

By Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala



This week our city manager, Bob Maxfield, announced his decision to retire. When I first heard the news, I was disappointed because I have enjoyed working with Bob and didn't want to see him leave our community. However, after discussing it with him further, he is excited for another adventure in his life.

I first met Bob when he became the Warrenton Chief of Police. He spent his career in law enforcement, most recently in Aberdeen, Washington, before moving to the N.W. Oregon coast. Bob dedicated much of his free time to the Warrenton Sunrise Rotary (he is the past president of the Aberdeen Rotary Club), the Warrenton Trails Association and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. But his passion is certainly up in the air! He is an avid pilot who enjoyed flying his own plane on the weekends.

When our previous city manager left in early 2008, Bob was encouraged to apply for the position. As a commission, we were pleased since he had been an excellent leader in the police department. His calm demeanor and easy going personality suited him perfectly for the job. During the last three years, he served as the city manager during what became a challenging period. Our public works director left abruptly just as the city moved forward with several major construction projects such as the water reservoir and the food bank. The city also had to deal with changes to the FEMA floodplain maps and the Corps levee certification process. The additional responsibilities attached to these and other projects were not all anticipated, and without a public works director or engineer on staff, it was stressful. However, much was accomplished, and Bob deserves the credit.

Unfortunately, it also coincided with a particularly challenging time for Bob and his family. His wife, Valerie, was sick, on dialysis and in need of additional medical care. Bob took medical leave to donate a kidney to her last spring. Although Bob recovered from the procedure, she never fully recuperated and passed away last summer. Despite the tragedy, Bob maintained his position and continued to lead the city in a positive direction.

Even now, Bob does not want to leave the city without a manager. He agreed to stay on for at least six months in order to give the commission time to find someone and then assist in the transition. The city commission will meet soon to start the recruitment process of a new city manager. It is an extremely important and demanding position, and I appreciate the contributions Bob has made during all of his years serving the city of Warrenton.

1-14-2011

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Kujala now 1st elected mayor

Warrenton leader also first to serve more than a year

By DERRICK DEPLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Mark Kujala has been mayor for three of the past four years. But when he took the oath office Tuesday night at City Hall, it was different.

The 44-year-old owner of Skipanon Brand Seafood became the first mayor in city history elected to a four-year term by voters in November. In the past, the City Commission chose a fellow commissioner to serve as mayor for a one-year term.

"Obviously, we're all accountable as city commissioners," Kujala said afterward. "But, I think, this one makes you accountable directly to the public in that position."

"I like that change. And I think it's a healthy one for a growing community."

Rick Newton, the owner of NAPA Auto Parts in Warrenton, was also sworn in as a new commissioner after winning in November.

1.14.2015

See KUJALA, Page 10A

The City Commission selected Commissioner Henry Balensifer as mayor pro tem, who presides when the mayor is absent.

Commissioners appointed Pam Ackley, a real estate broker with Windermere Real Estate, to fill a vacancy on the commission created by Kujala's election. She will be sworn in at the next commission meeting on Jan. 27 to fill out the remaining two years of Kujala's term as commissioner.

Ackley had finished second to Newton in the November election and was the only one to apply for the vacancy.

The City Commission used the first meeting of the new year to revise commission rules on ethical conduct that prohibit commissioners from using their elected office for financial gain.

The rule changes are meant to clarify what had been informal practices, according to City Manager Kurt Fritsch, and were prompted in part because the city had done business with Newton's auto parts store before he was elected to the commission.

The new rules specify that commissioners may seek closed bid, open competitive awards for city goods and services. Commissioners or their immediate family members are not eligible, however, for city contracts for professional services such as legal, engineering or architectural expertise.

The city may turn to commissioners that have retail or wholesale businesses for smaller purchases that do not require bids or quotes, but will make an effort to ensure that such purchases are equitably shared with other vendors.

The city will not solicit quotes or informal bids



DERRICK DEPLEDGE — The Daily Astorian

Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala, left, is sworn in by City Manager Kurt Fritsch at Tuesday night's Warrenton City Commission meeting.

with commissioners or their immediate family members who own businesses.

The City Commission, meanwhile, directed city staff to accept a \$16,880 bid from P&L Johnson Mechanical to install a new walk-in freezer at the Warrenton Community Center. A new freezer has been a longtime priority for the center.

At a work session prior to the commission meeting, commissioners offered guidance to city staff on how to proceed with Oregon LNG's proposed terminal.

After a conference call briefing with Dan Olsen, a Portland attorney who is advising the city on the controversial liquefied natural gas project, commissioners agreed that Oregon LNG's proposed comprehensive plan amendment and zoning change would go before the Planning Commission, while the development application would be reviewed by a hearings officer.

Under the city's charter, Oregon LNG has the right to a consolidated process for the city's review of the project.

Decisions by the Planning Commission or hearings officer can be appealed to the City Commission.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN • WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015

Kujala: Ackley appointed to replace Kujala on commission

Naselle man crashed in slough, cited for failure to yield

By The Daily Astorian

A Naselle, Wash., man was cited for failure to yield Wednesday after being struck by another vehicle and crashing into the Holbrook Slough on East Harbor Street in Warrenton.

Allen Smith, 44, was driving his 2000 Dodge Durango from the Youngs Bay Plaza across East Harbor Street at noon Thursday when he pulled out in front of a 2009 Chrysler Sebring.

The Sebring struck the Durango and sent it down into the slough, Warrenton Police said.

The driver of the Sebring told Warrenton Police he never saw the Durango when he turned right onto East Harbor Street toward downtown Warrenton.

Smith and a passenger in the Sebring were trans-



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian

A two vehicle crash took place at intersection of East Harbor Street and Northeast Pacific Avenue in Warrenton Wednesday.

ported to Columbia Memorial Hospital for minor injuries.

Warrenton Police remained on scene for about two hours.

Both vehicles were completely totaled, according to Warrenton Police.







Warrenton plots path on pot

Mayor believes residents want restrictions

By DERRICK DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Mayor Mark Kujala said Tuesday night he believes residents might be interested in a ballot initiative in November 2016 to restrict marijuana.

The city adopted a one-year moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries and voted to tax recreational sales last year before Oregon voters in November approved Measure 91, which legalized the drug.

But the moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries expires May 1 and there is a cloud over whether local

taxes on the drug that were passed before the statewide vote are legal.

People 21 and over can legally possess marijuana for personal use starting in July and applications for production, processing, wholesale and retail licenses are expected at the Oregon Liquor Control Commission after January.

The earliest cities and counties can restrict the drug through ballot initiatives is November 2016. Local governments that opt out, however, will not be eligible for state tax revenue sharing after July 2017, when the formula will be based on the number of licenses issued.

While Warrenton voters, like other voters in Clatsop County, backed Measure 91, Kujala said the public feed-



Mark Kujala

back he has received from residents since the election has been concern about the impact of marijuana legalization.

"It seems like people would like to put some safeguards in place," the mayor said after the City Commission held a work session on marijuana Tuesday night.

"They're really worried about our schools, worried about the community in general."

Kujala said later in an email that while he does not know whether residents would pursue an outright ban, "I do believe folks want some time and place restrictions on marijuana. It is up to citizens to put an initiative together and we will deal with zoning issues and

2.25.2015

See WARRENTON, Page 7A

Warrenton: Measure 91 doesn't affect state's medical marijuana, dispensary programs

Continued from Page 1A

"It is a bucket of monkeys, can of worms, whatever you want to say. And it is going to change the landscape of our community."

— Matt Workman

Warrenton police chief of marijuana legalization

law enforcement concerns as if the current version of Measure 91 is in effect."

Last year, 146 Oregon cities — including Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside and Cannon Beach — agreed to moratoriums on medical marijuana dispensaries, along with 26 counties. The moratoriums are intended to give local governments time to prepare for dispensaries but cannot extend beyond May 1.

More than 60 cities — including Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside and Cannon Beach — opted to tax marijuana before the Measure 91 vote. Legal experts differ on whether taxes adopted before the vote are legal, since the measure specifically prohibits local taxes on the drug, but state lawmakers are now debating whether to allow local taxation.

City Manager Kurt Fritsch suggested during the work session that the City Commission might consider rescinding the local marijuana tax if it appears residents are interested in a ballot initiative to restrict local sales

so as not to send conflicting messages.

"We've sent one message," Fritsch said of the local tax. "So if we're going to change message — and that's OK — we'd have to consider rescinding that. Of course it may be moot if it's proven to be not legal. "But we need to think about that with the messages we send."

Police Chief Matt Workman cautioned that the city will have to sort through several legal and policy issues in response to marijuana legalization.

"It is a bucket of monkeys, can of worms, whatever you want to say. And it is going to change the

landscape of our community," the police chief warned. "Whatever we do."

Measure 91 does not change the state's medical marijuana and dispensary programs, so cities will potentially have to adapt to retail outlets for recreational use, which will be limited based on age, and dispensaries for medicinal use, which are restricted to patients with doctor-endorsed medical marijuana cards.

Speaking personally, Workman questioned how marijuana can be both a recreational drug and a powerful medication to relieve pain: "Last time I went to my doctor, I couldn't get a prescription Budweiser."



Photo by
Dwight &
Deanne

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Business park receives significant industrial area designation

WARRENTON — Clatsop County learned Jan. 28 that its North Coast Business Park earned a coveted designation from state economic development officials.

The Economic Recovery Review Council announced that the county-owned site in Warrenton has been designated a Regionally Significant Industrial Area (RSIA).

The RSIA label, the result of a lengthy application process, gives the county several advantages in its efforts to promote the development of industries offering family-wage jobs on the 162-acre site. It prevents re-zoning or other changes on the property that would reduce or interfere with industrial development on the property. The designation also provides additional state support for job creation in the area, and may also give it higher priority with the state for infrastructure and transportation improvement funding.

“This is exciting news for Clatsop County,” County Manager Scott Somers said. “The North Coast Business Park is a key part of our goal to support the creation of new good-paying jobs for our citizens.”

The RSIA program, approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2011, is designed to help preserve the state’s best industrial lands. Criteria for RSIA designation include vacant land suitable for new or expanded industrial uses that would offer significant additional employment to a region; features not found in other properties in the region; direct rail, port, air and multimodal freight access; and proximity to labor markets.

The county’s RSIA application, submitted last June, noted that the North Coast Business Park contains the largest contiguous site of buildable industrial-zoned land in the county, with individual sections of between 10.4 and 46 acres offering flexible development options. The business park also lies near two highways, a regional airport and deep-water port, the application noted. The land is zoned General Industrial, which allows a variety of uses including manufacturing, business offices and distribution services.

The property that became the North Coast Business Park was cleared and graded in the 1960s for a proposed aluminum plant that was never built. The county gained ownership of the roughly 270-acre property in 1991 and crafted a master plan calling for approximately 70 acres adjacent to U.S. Highway 101 to be sold for commercial

development, with the proceeds dedicated to infrastructure improvements on the rest of the land. Excluding existing uses, infrastructure and wetlands, approximately 117 acres are available for industrial development.

The county has contracted with real estate broker Diane Peterson to market the property to potential developers.

The Economic Recovery Review Council is made up of directors from Business Oregon, Department of Environmental Quality, Land Conservation and Development Department, Department of State Lands and Oregon Department of Transportation.

In related news, Somers on Feb. 3 attended the Astoria City Council meeting to begin making a case for Astoria, Warrenton and the Port of Astoria to partner with the county on an enterprise zone as an incentive to attract industry and create jobs.

The enterprise zone, which would not amend local land use and permitting requirements, could cover Astoria’s downtown corridor, the Port, Tongue Point, the North Coast Business Park and other parcels in Warrenton.

Businesses could receive property tax breaks on new plants and equipment for three to five years. The businesses would have to meet minimum employment levels and other conditions in return for the tax exemptions.

“It’s really meant to be another tool in the toolbox to create investment, to hopefully create jobs,” Somers told the council.

Councilor Cindy Price questioned whether enterprise zones are effective beyond helping large existing businesses that are looking to expand.

She cited the Georgia-Pacific Wauna Mill, which had received property tax breaks for a new paper machine through an enterprise zone, was later disqualified for not meeting minimum employment requirements, and then challenged the mill’s property tax assessments. The dispute ended in a \$2.5 million settlement with Clatsop County and other taxing districts in 2012.

Price said she would not want to give up property tax revenue “unless it can really be shown that it’s going to do us great benefit.”

Somers said Astoria could choose not to co-sponsor the initiative. “Clatsop County and the city of Warrenton and the Port can still move forward with that,” he said. “It’s up to the city. The city doesn’t have to



The North Coast Business Park is in the foreground of this photo taken soon after the Costco was finished.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

participate in this if it doesn't want to."

A public meeting on the enterprise zone with local taxing districts is scheduled for late February. Resolutions could be up for consideration by Astoria, the Port, the

Clatsop County Board of Commissioners and Warrenton in March.

An enterprise zone application is due with the Oregon Business Development Department in April.

Oregon LNG sues for right to build terminal

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The proposed Oregon Liquefied Natural Gas terminal in Warrenton near the mouth of Columbia River is faced with another roadblock and may not have access to the land where it proposes to build its terminal.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has an easement over the terminal site for disposing dredge spoils. Oregon LNG has sued the Army Corps for access to the land, according to court filings discovered by Columbia Riverkeeper, an advocacy group opposed to the project.

The lawsuit is pending, and the resolution may decide the fate of the LNG export ter-

minal, Columbia Riverkeeper Conservation Director Dan Serres said.

"If the Corps is unwilling to release its easement, Oregon LNG will not have a place to build," Serres said. "What they do to try to resolve that problem is anyone's guess."

Serres said his advocacy group came across the lawsuit while digging up other information to comment on a separate Army Corps dredging project. The Columbia Riverkeeper group wonders why this fundamental land's rights issue was not brought up a decade ago when Oregon LNG signed a lease for the property.

"Columbia Riverkeeper and people in the estuary had been pointing to the fundamental flaws from a bunch of

different perspectives," Serres said. "The fact that the Army Corps is now weighing in is unexpected."

Oregon LNG did not respond, when contacted by The Daily Astorian.

The pending lawsuit comes after Oregon LNG learned of another hurdle last week.

The Oregon Court of Appeals ruled last week in favor of Clatsop County, upholding its decision to deny a key permit for the Oregon LNG pipeline to the terminal.

Oregon LNG challenged the county's decision Oct. 18, 2013, to deny the permit on the grounds of bias, but the Court of Appeals sided with the county.

"We knew about their problems with the county, but this (lawsuit) is something

no one knew was going on, a fundamental problem with the site itself," Serres said. "It adds another interesting layer. If the Corps is right, Oregon LNG doesn't have a place to put the terminal."

The Army Corps originally received an easement in 1957 to dump dredge spoils on the East Skipanon Peninsula in Warrenton, which is exactly where the LNG terminal is proposed.

Hundreds of salmon fishermen, sailors and commercial fishermen keep boats in marinas on the Skipanon Peninsula, Columbia Riverkeeper said.

"We're pleased that the Corps is standing up to protect access to the Columbia River," Brett VandenHeuvel, executive director of Columbia Riverkeeper, said in

a news release. "It's simple, you cannot build a massive LNG terminal where the federal government has an easement to deposit dredge spoils. In addition, siting a massive LNG terminal in the heart of the Columbia River's most productive salmon fishery is a huge mistake."

According to the Columbia Riverkeeper findings:

Legal proceedings about this easement began in August when Oregon LNG filed a Quiet Title action in federal district court against the Army Corp.

The Corps filed a motion to dismiss in November. Oregon LNG filed an amended complaint in December.

The land is owned by the state of Oregon, which issued a lease to the Port of Astoria,

who in turn subleased the land to Oregon LNG.

The lawsuit is the latest in a turbulent path for Oregon LNG. Over the past decade, Serres notes Oregon LNG was the subject of a criminal investigation into its action to obtain the lease, it sued the Port of Astoria when the Port wanted to get out of the questionable lease and it sued Clatsop County after the County rejected the LNG pipeline application.

"The bad news keeps mounting (for Oregon LNG)," Serres said. "It's clear they are facing roadblocks at every pass."

To view the court filings and related maps, visit www.columbiariverkeeper.org.

MEET THE CHIEF TIM DEMERS



I started my Fire Service Career at Jefferson County Fire District #1 as a volunteer in 1980. I progressed up through the ranks to Assistant Fire Chief while earning my Paramedic certification. During this time I was working in a Lumber Mill and raising a family in Madras, Oregon. Concurrently I worked part time for Warm Springs Fire & Safety as a Firefighter / Paramedic to gain experience.

After ten years with Jefferson County Fire, I took a career position with Black Butte Fire as the Assistant Fire Chief. I worked there as a Chief Officer Paramedic for almost 17 years before taking the Fire Chief's job in Oakridge Oregon. I was there for 6 1/2 years before taking the Chief's position in Warrenton.

I am really enjoying the Fire Department and the Community of Warrenton. We have a great group of very dedicated volunteers who provide excellent Fire and Medical services to their community. They also provide Christmas food baskets and toys to those in need during the holidays.

WARRENTON RFPD APPARATUS

Station 27:

- 2751 Rescue / Wildland type 6
- 2723 Engine / Wildland type 3
- 2725 Engine / Structural
- 2731 Tender
- 2790 Fire Boat
- 2765 Command / Utility
- 2761 Utility
- 2763 Command / Utility

Station 27A:

- 2754 Rescue / Transport
- 2721 Engine / Structural
- 2726 Engine / Structural

WARRENTON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

225 S. MAIN STREET • WARRENTON, OREGON 97146 • 503-861-1779



Back Row (left to right): Shana Olson, Firefighter/EMR - Volunteer; Krista Bingham, Firefighter/EMT Basic - Volunteer; Cecil Wesner, Firefighter/EMR - Volunteer; Nick Schaffer, Firefighter - Volunteer; Chuck Marsh, Firefighter - Volunteer; Nick Tucker, Firefighter/EMR - Volunteer; Justin Baughman, Firefighter/EMR - Volunteer; Glen Ely, Firefighter/EMR - Volunteer; Scott Watson, Firefighter/EMT Basic - Career; Chris Peck, Firefighter - Volunteer

Front Row (left to right): Tim Demers, Fire Chief / Paramedic - Career; David Yuill, Lieutenant / EMT Basic - Volunteer; Brian Alsbury, Lieutenant / EMT Basic - Volunteer; John Shepherd, Captain / EMT Basic - Career; Derek Daughtery, Lieutenant / EMT Intermediate - Volunteer; Chris Penno, Captain / EMT Basic - Volunteer; Mike Stein, Asst Chief / EMR - Volunteer

Not Pictured: Richard Barber, Lieutenant / EMT Basic - Volunteer; James Blackburn, Firefighter / EMT Basic - Volunteer; Bob Burk, Firefighter / EMT Basic - Volunteer; Crystal Flagg, Firefighter - Volunteer; Lenard Hansen, Firefighter / EMR - Volunteer; Aron Harrison, Firefighter - Volunteer; Geanna Harrison, Firefighter - Volunteer; Stephen Horgli, Firefighter / EMR - Volunteer; Willie Nyberg, Captain / EMR - Volunteer; John Sleutel, Firefighter / EMR - Volunteer; Bruce Spencer, Firefighter / EMR - Volunteer; Steven Zamora, Firefighter / EMT Basic - Volunteer

Military: Mitchell Suppah, Firefighter / EMR - Volunteer; Shane Eager, Firefighter - Volunteer; Angelia Legler, Firefighter - Volunteer



2014

Thank you Firefighters!

Hampton Lumber Mills is proud to be part of the Warrenton/America community. Our employees are our greatest resource and we want them to go home safely at the end of each shift. With employees, their families, and valuable sawmill and timberland assets residing in Clatsop County, we are grateful for the security that the community's volunteer and full-time firefighters give us. Thank you!



HAMPTON LUMBER MILLS



WARRENTON DIVISION

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WARRENTON'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

COLUMBIA PRESS

NUMBER 52

WARRENTON'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1978

DECEMBER 26, 2014

ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY...

Warrenton Fire Department members volunteer countless hours on their annual Christmas Food Drive

By Gary Nevan

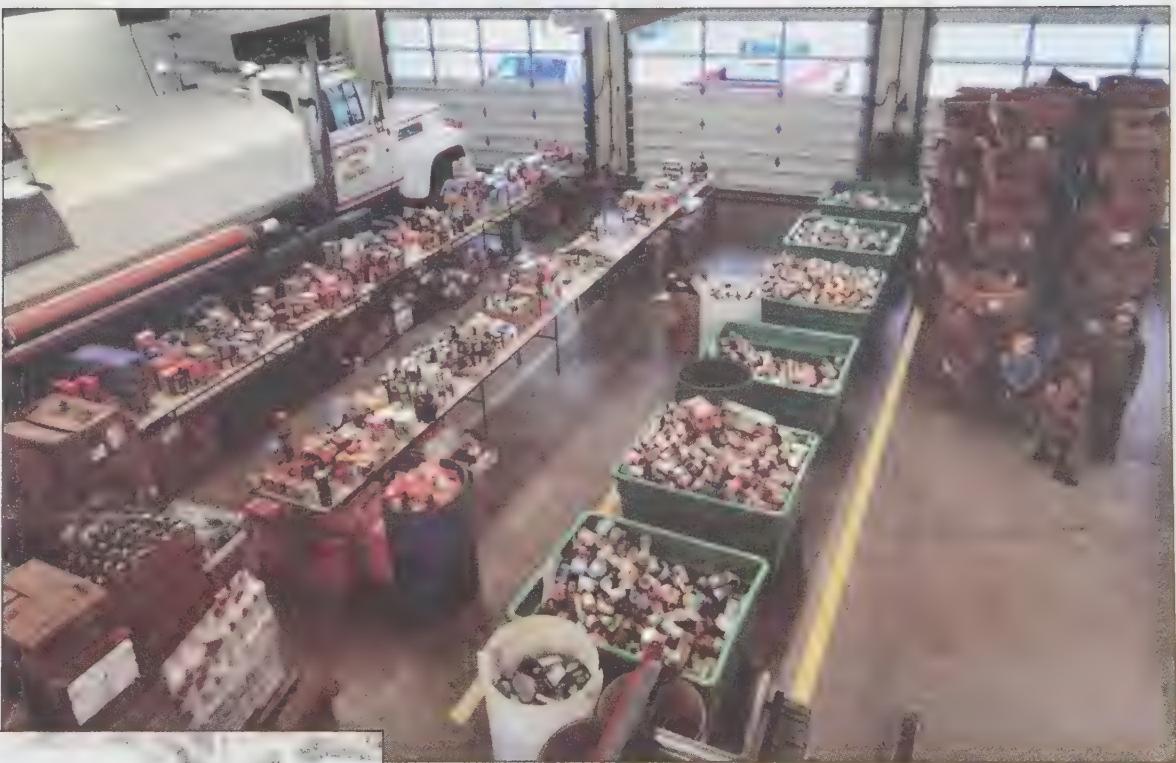
As they have each Christmas season for over 24 years, members of the Warrenton Fire Department, along with community volunteers, worked tirelessly for countless hours to collect and assemble 118 boxes of food and toys for the less fortunate members of our community.

According to Fire Chief Tim Demers, each box represents about \$250 worth of food items, including a 20-pound turkey.

The annual fire department Christmas Food Drive, which is run by the Warrenton Firefighters Association, directly helped hundreds of people in the community have a better holiday season.

Chris Penno, president of the association, is in charge of organizing the event and says it's a process that begins well before the holidays.

"We start at least two months before Christmas getting everything



going," he said. "We distribute food barrels at the high school, the grade school and at various businesses. The community is always very generous in helping out and donating items."

One weekend firefighters accompany members of the local Cub Scout pack in distributing bags door-to-door in the community for people to donate non-perishable food items. Then the next weekend local Boy Scouts ride with the firefighters to pick up the bags of food and bring them back to the fire station.

The department also receives monetary donations throughout the year. This year, Hampton Lumber Mill donated a sizeable check to the food drive and two donors, who wish to remain anonymous, also contributed a significant amount.

Some of those funds were used to buy gifts for children, Penno said.

Captain John Shepherd Jr. said the department's food drive started sometime in the late 1980s.

"I know it was before the Town of Hammond merged with Warrenton," he said. "We did it at the Hammond Fire Station."

"It's a lot of work but everyone enjoys doing it for the community," Penno said.

Above: Bins and tables of food wait to be placed in boxes for the annual Food Drive. **Left:** Members of the Warrenton Fire Department worked with two little helpers at Warrenton Grade School collecting food. Photos courtesy of Fire Chief Tim Demers.

Citizen hero receives recognition



Police Chief Mathew Workman presents a Citizen Accommodation Award to John Breitmeyer.

Editor's note: Warrenton Police Chief Mathew Workman read the following statement at the Tuesday evening Warrenton City Commission meeting where John Breitmeyer received a Citizen Commendation award.

On November 5, 2014, at 6:23 p.m., Warrenton police officers were sent to the Warrenton Mini Mart in reference to a disturbance between a male and female. While in route officers were advised that someone had been struck by a vehicle and the suspect was being detained on the ground by several subjects.

Warrenton Police Officer Leonard Mossman arrived and found several subjects (including John Breitmeyer) holding the suspect down although he was continuing to

struggle. Officer Mossman engaged the suspect who continued to fight even after being handcuffed. The suspect thrashed, kicked, attempted to bite, and grabbed the crotch of the officer. The other subjects continued to assist Officer Mossman until other officers arrived and the suspect was secured in a police vehicle, though he continued to struggle until he was lodged in the jail.

During his investigation, Officer Mossman spoke to several subjects, including Mr. Breitmeyer, all of whom described the incident.

The incident started when a woman started screaming for help from a vehicle in the parking lot. Witnesses saw the male suspect striking the female victim, then said he climbed on top of the woman, started choking her while she was

sitting in the driver's seat of the vehicle. Besides choking the female victim, the suspect also struck her several times in the face with his elbows.

Mr. Breitmeyer and other witnesses tried to enter the vehicle to help the female victim but the doors were locked. The suspect, while on top of the female victim, was able to get the vehicle into reverse causing the vehicle to move rapidly backwards. The female subject was then able to apply the brakes and stop the vehicle before it struck anything though it was thought that someone might have been struck.

As the struggle in the car continued, the female victim was somehow able to unlock the vehicle doors. Once the doors were unlocked, Mr.

3.27.15 **Continued on page 4**

John Breitmeyer honored

Continued from page 1

Breitmeyer opened the door and dragged the suspect out of the vehicle where he and other subjects detained him until the police arrived. Only after the suspect was detained and the female victim got out of the vehicle did everyone realize in the back seat of the vehicle was the two-year-old son of the female victim. The female victim was taken to the hospital where she was treated for her injuries and released.

It was later learned that the suspect had choked the female almost to the point of blacking-out twice that evening and had been striking her in the head while she was driving prior to the incident at the Mini Mart. Because she was scared for her life the female victim made the decision to pull into the Mini Mart because there were other people there.

If not for the decision of the female victim and Mr. Breitmeyer's bravery and willingness to help the victim that November evening, I am positive that this incident would have ended in tragedy. The City of Warrenton and the Warrenton Police Department want to commend John P. Breitmeyer for his actions on the evening of November 5, 2014, where he and other citizens came to the aid of a female victim who was being attacked by a male suspect.

City celebrates opening of new marina facility

The City of Warrenton officially opened the new Warrenton Marina Harbormaster Office and Bathhouse in a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house on Friday, April 3.

The funding for the new facility, which cost approximately \$545,000, came from the city's Urban Renewal Agency taxing district.

Mayor Mark Kujala said the project will be the first of many improvements in the Warrenton Urban Renewal District.

"This is an excellent addition to the Warrenton Marina," he said. "It was funded by Urban Renewal dollars, which means that much of the growth along Highway 101 and Ensign Lane has contributed to building this facility. It is a much needed upgrade to the marina, and there are more improvements to come."



Photo by Trish Nevan

Sunset Lake RV Park request denied

Owner wanted to change ratio of mobile homes, permanent RVs

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

As part of a settlement with Clatsop County, the owner of an overcrowded Warrenton RV park agreed in December to reduce the number of permanent dwellings from more than 60 to 43 — the number stipulated in a 2012 compliance order.

Ken Hick, owner of the Sunset Lake Resort and RV Park, recently submitted an application to the Clatsop County Planning Commission to change the ratio of the 43 units.

He requested the ratio of 18 mobile homes and 25 permanent RVs be changed to 21 and 22, respectively.

The Planning Commission denied his request Tuesday with a vote of 6-1, after considering public comment from Hick's attorney and multiple neighbors against the change.

Dozens of neighbors held a community meeting last week at the Astoria Golf and Country Club with representatives from the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office and Warrenton Fire Department to discuss ongoing concerns with the park.

Ken Ellsworth, a neighbor, said Tuesday neighbors are frustrated that Hick never complied with previous orders and still has not complied with the December settlement. More than 50 permanent dwellings appear to still be on the property, he said.

"His actions speak louder than his attorney's words," Ellsworth said.

The county began enforcement action against the park in 2009 in response to complaints from neighbors. At the time, county staff found about 90 units at the park, with more than 60 connected to an overburdened septic system. Gray water was also being released into the lake from some sites, according to a citation.

The overcrowding also appeared to increase criminal incidents, according to the county.

A hearings officer issued an order in September 2012 to set the maximum number of permanent mobile homes at 18 and RVs at 25. Hick failed to meet the order.

After several inspections and continued non-compliance, Clatsop County sued Hick in late 2013 to enforce its order. The December settlement dropped the lawsuit and ended the lengthy standoff over the multiple code violations. Hick had to pay

\$5,000 to offset the county's costs.

Ken and Joyce Carrell, who live near the park, said no matter what the ratio, 43 permanent units is still too many for the park.

"I have trouble believing (Hick) is going to be in good faith, when he has not historically shown he has been in good faith," Ken Carrell said.

Blair Henningsgaard, legal counsel for the Planning Commission, said Hick has a constitutional right to his property and the county cannot lower the number of spaces. In addition, Hick has the right to request a changed ratio, Henningsgaard said, and that right was agreed upon in the settlement.

"The county can't say that is the wrong number of spaces because as the years went by the county didn't take any action," Henningsgaard said.

Robert Stricklin, the Planning Commission member who cast the lone vote in favor of the ratio change, said he made the vote because the county already agreed to let Hick change the ratio.

Under the settlement agreement, Hick, owner of Resources Northwest Inc., had to apply to the county to modify the use or ratio of his park. It is then up to the county to approve his application. Stricklin suspects Hick's lawyer — Kevin Luby — will appeal the Planning Commission's decision.

County staff recommended approving Hick's request, claiming the ratio change would not expand or impact the square footage threshold at the park.

"Staff was not able to identify any adverse impacts that would result from just the change in the ratio," Senior Planner Jennifer Bunch said.

Warrenton City Commission backs water, sewer hikes

By DERRICK
DePLEDGE
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Water and sewer rates are going up.

The Warrenton City Commission voted unanimously Tuesday night to move forward with significant water and sewer rate increases necessary to sustain the city's infrastructure.

Water rates will increase by 15 percent, sewer rates will climb by 2.5 percent, and a storm sewer surcharge will double to 20 percent, up from 10 percent.

City staff estimates the water rate increase will bring in an additional \$300,000, the sewer rate bump will generate \$42,500, and the storm

'It's a hard pill to swallow but it's something that we're going to have to do.'

— Mark Kujala
Warrenton mayor

sewer surcharge hike will produce \$178,500.

For households that consume 4,000 gallons a month, the combined rate increases would raise the bill to \$115.28, up from \$104.86, a \$10.42 jump.

The rate increases will take effect in the new fiscal year that starts in July.

"It's a hard pill to swallow but it's something that we're going to have to do," Mayor Mark Kujala said.

Warrenton has resisted recommendations for

steep rate increases in the past, but has regularly raised rates to keep up with infrastructure. The storm sewer surcharge, however, has not been increased since it was first imposed in 1992.

The city will order new water and sewer rate studies that could help guide future rate structures.

The rate studies, City Manager Kurt Fritsch said, will help "folks know that we're not simply doing this by the seat of our pants. This is a

very serious concern of ours."

One of the issues influencing rate pressures is the loss of the Pacific Coast Seafoods processing plant to fire in 2013. The city has estimated the processing plant consumed about \$250,000 worth of water annually.

Kujala said the loss of revenue "really demonstrates the need to get Pacific Seafoods back to Warrenton."

A city budget committee had recommended the water and sewer rate increases in May.

The City Commission is expected to take final votes on the rate increases at a meeting later this month, when the commission will also likely approve the budget for next fiscal year. *6.10.15*

"Making a difference through excellence of service."



CITY OF WARRENTON

Kurt Fritsch
City Manager

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"Making a difference through excellence of service."



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Spring 2015



WARRENTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

TIM DEMERS

Fire Chief

E-mail: firechief@ci.warrenton.or.us

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WARRENTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Mathew J. Workman
Chief of Police

WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Kathi Smith
Municipal Court Clerk/
Police Secretary

Spring 2015

2015 City of Warrenton

WATER QUALITY REPORT

2014 YEAR END



We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. There are many reports these days—in the press, on radio and television—questioning the safety of the water we drink.

- **How safe is the City of Warrenton's water?**
- **Where does the water come from and how does it get to my home?**
- **What is being done to improve the system?**

To help answer these questions, the City of Warrenton has prepared this report to show you how our drinking water compares with nationally-established standards.

Our source

The City of Warrenton's water is supplied by the Lewis and Clark River, Big South Fork of the Lewis and Clark River, Little South Fork of the Lewis and Clark River and Camp C Creek.

The City of Warrenton is working to develop a **Source Water Protection Plan** to ensure our sources remain free of contamination. Each patron can help in the protection effort by helping to keep areas clear of unauthorized access.

Contaminant	Last Test Date	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected
Total Coliform Bacteria	December 2014	No	Highest number of positive samples in any one month = 0.03 NTU
Turbidity	December 2014	No	Highest single measurement = 0.03 NTU
Combined Radium	October 2010	No	0
Uranium	October 2010	No	0
Copper	September 2012	No	90th percentile = 0.424 ppm
Lead	September 2012	No	90th percentile = 0.002 ppm
Fluoride	December 2014	No	Average = 0.06 ppm Range = 0.6-0.7 ppm
Nitrate	September 2014	No	0.182 ppm
Sodium	April 2012	No	7.5 ppm
Total Trihalomethanes	November 2014	No	Average = 0.032 ppm Range = 0.0229-0.041 ppm
Haloacetic Acids	November 2014	No	Average = 0.11 ppm Range = 0.0170-0.14 ppm
Chlorine	December 2014	No	Highest annual average = 0.5-0.6 ppm Range = 0.5-0.6 ppm
Synthetic Organic Compound	November 2014	No	0
Inorganic Chemicals	August 2011	No	0
Volatile Organic	August 2014	No	Negligible to 0
Total Organic Carbon	December 2014	No	Average = 2.33 ppm Range = 1.61-3.33 ppm

Treating the water

The membrane filtration system went online in September 2002 providing customers with safe and clean drinking water. A recent addition to the water treatment facility is a pretreatment before filtration. This process aids in the removal of organic materials and inorganic materials and compounds and reduces the chlorine dosage by more than 30% that is needed to maintain the proper residual in our distribution system. The .2 micron openings on the filters prevent bacteria, protozoa and parasitic organisms and cysts from entering the water system. After filtration, the water is disinfected with chlorine that is generated on site.

MINANT MONITORING TEST RESULTS

	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Comments
samples 0	0	1 positive sample per month	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are tested for 10 times each month. All were negative in 2014.
ment	N/A	TT= 0.30 NTU	Soil runoff	Turbidity measures the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system; 100% of our samples were below the MCL.
	0 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits	Combined Radium consists of two isotopes—Radium 226 and Radium 228.
	0 ppb	.03 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	Radioactive contaminants are tested for every 6 years at the entrance to our distribution system.
	1.3 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; wood preservative leaching	Lead and Copper are tested for every 3 years; samples are taken directly from a selection of customer's taps.
	0 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits	None of the test sites for Lead and Copper exceeded the action levels.
	4 ppm	4 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth	Fluoride is added to our water during the treatment process; Fluoride levels are monitored daily.
	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Nitrate is tested for every year at the entrance to our distribution system.
	Not regulated	Not regulated	Erosion of natural deposits; saltwater intrusion; residual of drinking water treatment process	Sodium and other inorganic contaminants are tested for every 9 years at the entrance to our distribution system.
	0 ppm	0.080 ppm	By-product of drinking water disinfection	Disinfection Byproducts are tested for quarterly; compliance with the MCLs are based on annual running averages.
	0 ppm	0.060 ppm	By-product of drinking water disinfection	Disinfection Byproduct samples are taken at a location representing the maximum residence time of the water in the distribution system.
	0.7 ppm	MRDLG = 4 ppm	Water additive used to control microbes	Chlorine levels are tested daily; Chlorine samples are taken at the same time and at the same place as Total Coliform samples.
		Varies per contaminant	Industrial or agricultural activities	Testing is required twice during each 3-year compliance period.
		Varies per contaminant	Those found in nature such as metals and salts	Testing is done every nine years, a change from yearly (reduced monitoring granted as testing has shown inorganic chemicals not to be a threat in our system).
		Varies per contaminant	Industrial by-products and cleaning solvents	Testing remains yearly for VOCs because of the potential effects to human health.
		Average less than 4.0 ppm	Naturally present from surface run-off, plants or other living or dead organisms—leaves, soils, etc.	An indicator of the levels of DBP precursor compounds in the source water.

Pipes and reservoirs

Warrenton has two treated water reservoirs with a total of 7 million gallons, which provide both optimum system pressure and water supply redundancy to all parts of our water delivery area. Additionally, we have a 16 million gallon raw water reservoir for optimum delivery of untreated water to our treatment plant. The City of Warrenton has 109.5 miles of potable water pipe in our treated water distribution and transmission systems and 5.4 miles of raw water delivery pipe from our four dams and the treatment plant.

Water quality standards

The City of Warrenton routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring, with special notes telling when testing occurred. This table includes many terms and abbreviations with which you might not be familiar. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND)—laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)— one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter— one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter

(nanograms/l)— one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or picograms per liter (picograms/l)— one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000,000 years, or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l)— picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr)— measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million fibers per liter (MFL)— million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)— nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Variances & Exemptions (V&E)— state or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Action Level—the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT)— a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level—the “maximum allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal—the “goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Test results

A complete table of all contaminants we test for showing the MCLG, MCL and likely source of contamination may be obtained from our office. The City has been granted a reduction of the monitoring for TOC from monthly to quarterly and reduced monitoring of DBP, from quarterly to yearly.

Microbiological contaminants:

Lead. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight

deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Warrenton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the **Safe Drinking Water hotline at 1-800-426-4791** or www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Special notes:

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791**.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791**.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their drinking water. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Terry Ager at 503-861-0914.

Fire/Bay efront
Warrenton -

2015







Former OSP Trooper Jim Pierce is sworn in as a Warrenton Police Department Reserve Officer.

Former OSP Trooper Jim Pierce newest Warrenton Police Dept. Reserve Officer

By Gary Nevan

A veteran retired Oregon State Police (OSP) trooper who was a sergeant with the Warrenton Police Department in the 1980s, has returned to serve his hometown as a reserve officer.

Jim Pierce was sworn into office at the Tuesday night Warrenton City Commission meeting.

Pierce retired from OSP in 2012 as senior trooper after serving with the agency since 1988. He was a collision/crime scene reconstruction expert.

He started his law enforcement career as an officer with the Seaside Police Department as a Communications Officer and Patrol Officer from 1976-1985. He then joined the Warrenton Police Department and served from 1985-1988 as a Patrol Sergeant.

Pierce then went to work for the Oregon State Police as a Trooper from 1988 to 2012. After retiring from OSP, he took a position as a part-time instructor at DPSST for Field Sobriety, Drugs that Impair Driving, and Crash Investigation. From May 2013 to present he serves as a Reserve Senior Trooper with OSP as a background investigator, and from 2013-2014

he was a Community Service Officer with the Astoria Police Department.

"Jim offers a wealth of knowledge and experience for my department as well as providing the City with another quality officer to provide patrol and community services," said Police Chief Mathew Workman. "We are very lucky to have him back at WPD and you should see him regularly patrolling the streets and at events."

In other commission news:

- Gil Gramson, president of Warrenton Senior Citizens, Inc. and Treasurer Barb Balensifer presented the commission a check for \$2,500 from a refund the organization received for a new freezer at the Warrenton Community Center.

Gramson and Balensifer thanked the city of their commitment to the senior meal site.

"We appreciate what you've done for us," said Gramson. "We've been working diligently with city staff. I wanted to let you know how much we appreciate it."

Continued on page 4

Warrenton Senior Citizens, Inc. thanks City

Continued from page 1

Balensifer, who started the non-profit organization in 1998 at her kitchen table, said she originally went to the city asking for help and received \$10,000.

"I want you to know that we still have \$7,000 of that original money still in a money market account," she said. "We've been good stewards of the taxpayer's money."

Balensifer said the senior meal site serves between 40-50 patrons each Monday and Thursday. Each

month they deliver between 480 to 580 Meals-On-Wheels, she said.

"Thank you for all your support over the years," she said.

Balensifer's grandson, Commissioner Henry Balensifer, made a motion to earmark the \$2,500 for future improvements at the senior meal site. His motion was unanimously passed.

In other city commission news:

- It was announced that City Fi-

nance Director Laurie Sawrey has accepted a position with the City of Cannon Beach as their finance director.

- The commission approved the Warrenton Police Department submission of a grant application for six new bullet-proof vests.

The vests are designed to last for five years, said Police Chief Mathew Workman. The City will receive a 50 percent reimbursement for the vests.

Family in law: Like father, like son

Police officer Tyler Johnston follows in dad's big footsteps

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Tyler Johnston knows what to expect by pursuing a career in law enforcement.

The newly hired Warrenton police officer grew up seeing the realities of police work through his father, Astoria Police Chief Brad Johnston.

"He has been incredibly supportive and I've always been able to bounce things off of him," Tyler Johnston said. "Being able to go to someone who has done it and be able to talk to them, it's a great resource."

Since being hired in April, Tyler Johnston has been busy with field training where he rides along with experienced

officers. This past week, he started the 16-week police academy in Salem, known as the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

He is one of 40 officers aiming for graduation Oct. 9.

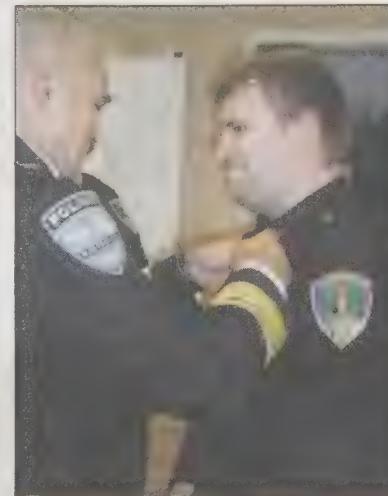
The academy covers everything from firearms and crisis training to how to interact with the community.

"Our job is not always enforcement driven. It is the most customer-driven job you can imagine," Tyler Johnston said. "You are coming to help people in what is the most (difficult) time of their lives. You need to treat it with the utmost respect and care."

Brad Johnston, who started as an Astoria police officer in 1992 before becoming the city's 33rd chief last year, said the police academy has evolved since he completed an eight-week course more than two decades ago.

See JOHNSTON, Page 11A

6/19/15



Submitted photo

Astoria Police Chief Brad Johnston pins a badge onto his son, Tyler Johnston, during his swearing-in ceremony at a Warrenton City Council meeting earlier this year.

Johnston: Tyler's brother is a volunteer firefighter with the Astoria Fire Department

Continued from Page 1A

He has talked with his son about how he will not like everything about the academy, but it is a necessary requirement for police agencies. His son is taking the academy with Portland Police officers, an elected sheriff and other deputies.

"It's a time to arm yourself for your future," Brad Johnston said.

Tyler Johnston applied for the Warrenton Police position about two years ago while he

was still at Western Oregon University, studying criminal justice and public policy and administration.

He never considered law enforcement a career until his sophomore year of college. He originally wanted to become an elementary school teacher.

"I don't know what happened. I heard law enforcement call my name. I started down that path and haven't looked back," Tyler Johnston said.

When he heard his son wanted to pursue law enforcement,

Brad Johnston said, he was both surprised and proud. Having his son working in the neighboring community offers another jolt of shock and pride.

"There are both good and bad things about that," Brad Johnston said. "Sometimes I think I would like to not hear him make his mistakes, and sometimes it's cool to hear him on the radio out there applying his trade."

After graduating from the academy in October, Tyler Johnston will still have more field

training. The training is not considered complete until there is a mastery in the skills, he said, so there is no timeline as to when he will be patrolling Warrenton on his own.

Warrenton Police Chief Matt Workman hired Tyler Johnston and another new officer, Justin Silence, who previously worked as a reserve officer in Jefferson County.

Workman said he was impressed with both after they completed an oral board interview in front of two community

members, two business owners and two law enforcement officers.

The fact that Tyler Johnston comes from a law enforcement family played no role in the hiring process, Workman said. In fact, some on the oral board panel did not know who Brad Johnston is.

"(Tyler) was on the same level as everybody else. He tested well and passed the physical agility and had a good interview," Workman said. "He earned it all on his own merits."

Tyler Johnston is not the only son in the family in a public safety position. His brother, Spencer Johnston, is a volunteer firefighter with the Astoria Fire Department.

Brad Johnston finds it funny because his brother, Mike Johnston, is a lieutenant for the Lynnwood, Wash., Fire Department, so the Johnston family has two generations of brothers who are police officers and firefighters.

"It does set huge footsteps to fill, but also a great path to follow," Tyler Johnston said.

Living the dream of a lifetime

By Gary Nevan

As young children, how many of us knew exactly what we wanted to be when we grew up? Not too many I would think. Some of us might have fleetingly imagined becoming a professional athlete, a famous celebrity, or even the president.

But Lenard Hansen, 62, of Warrenton knew. In fact, he might have known while still in his mother's womb—he was going to be fireman one day. And he didn't even have to wait until he grew up.

Lenard and his family lived right across the street from the Lewis and Clark Fire Station in Jeffers Garden in the late 1950s. He remembers as a very young child watching in wonder as the firefighters put on their gear and drove the engines with their lights flashing out on calls.

"I saw all of the activity around the fire station and I just knew that I wanted to do that one day," he says.

The firefighters must have been watching Lenard, too, because the fire chief at the time, Elman Petersen, one day invited Lenard to join the fire department as his personal aid.

Lenard was four years old.

By the age of nine, Lenard was regularly attending fire district meetings. He was issued all the firefighter gear that the other members had, and even proudly hung his own coffee cup on the wall in the fire hall with his name over it. For many boys, that would be as good as it got. Childhood infatuations would take a back seat as other interests would take over, especially after entering high school.

But Lenard wasn't done being a firefighter. Not by a long shot.

After he graduated Astoria High School in 1970, Lenard entered the firefighter program at Chemeketa Community College and later transferred to Portland Community College. He then went to work for the Tualatin Fire District and after a few years returned home to work at Tongue Point Job Corps as a fire and public safety inspector. He also joined the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office as a reserve deputy sheriff. Since Tongue Point was a federal facility, Lenard was required to become a federal marshal, too.



Lenard Hansen is a volunteer firefighter in Warrenton. Photo by Scott Watson.

In 1976, Lenard joined the Astoria Fire Department and worked his way up the ranks over the years until he was appointed fire chief in 2001.

Career highlights included the big storm of 2007 where he was the initial incident commander.

"I basically worked non-stop for days during that time as most everyone else did, too," he says.

A tragic memory for Lenard was the 10th Street fire in Astoria in the mid 2000s.

"Roger Martin, a good friend of mine who I went to high school with, died in that fire," remembers Lenard. "That was a tough one."

As if working full-time and being on call 24/7 wasn't enough to keep Lenard busy, he was also a high school basketball referee for 34 years, retiring in 2004.

"I loved it," he says. "I had a lot of fun doing that."

Shortly after Lenard retired from the fire department in 2012, he attended a Lion's Club meeting in Eugene with his brother.

Continued on page 5

News for seniors loving life on the Oregon North Coast

C.P. June 2015

Retired fire chief continues to live a life of service

continued from page 1

"A doctor was giving a presentation about a longevity study he had completed where he researched different cultures," says Lenard. "There were three things that every culture shared that contributed to living longer. Eat in moderation; we eat too much in our culture. Exercise will help you live longer; keep moving.

9-Year-Old Member of Fire Dept.

JEFFERS GARDENS (Special)
—Leonard Hansen, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Hansen, has been an enthusiastic member of the fire department for the last five years. He has been attending fire department meetings and learning all the ropes and has all the gear of a fireman. Leonard's own coffee cup hangs up on the wall in the fire hall with his name over it.

He rides in parades in the fire truck and studies projects pertaining to fire departments. He isn't afraid of the work either, as he has a hand in polishing of the trucks.

He carries the title of captain and says that he plans to train himself for a fire chief position when he grows up.

Social interaction; being engaged with other people is good for your mental health."

Lenard has especially followed the social interaction recommendation. Lenard has never met a stranger, just an opportunity to make a new friend. An active community volunteer, he's been a member of the Astoria Lion's Club for over 15 years and regularly goes out to pick up newspapers for the club's recycled eyeglasses project. He is a trolley operator on the Astoria Riverwalk. He and his wife, Cindy, are ambassadors for the many cruise ships that visit the area each year, greeting and answering questions from visitors all around the world.

And he's gone back to being a firefighter, joining the Warrenton Fire Department as a volunteer. Lenard is the oldest volunteer with the department but recently passed the physical test with flying colors.

"It's a big-time commitment," says Lenard. "I had to relearn some skills I haven't used in years. I'm really enjoying being back as a firefighter and working with a great group of dedicated people."

Having lived in Astoria for many years on a steep hill in a two-story house with stairs, Lenard and Cindy decided to make some changes after they both retired. They bought a new home in Warrenton with living quarters on the lower floor.

"We thought about what would benefit us the most as we get older," he says. "Our house in Astoria was multi-story with the laundry in the basement. As we get older, we decided that house was going to be difficult for us to get around in. We also thought about our dog, Hitch, who is getting older and having physical difficulties and decided that's going to be us in the future."

Lenard and Cindy plan on traveling more, especially to visit family. Between working on projects around the new house, volunteering in the community, and jawing with his many friends, Lenard's days are full. But after he stopped working full-time, Lenard learned something very important.

"My first realization after retiring was there's always tomorrow. There's no rush to do anything," Lenard says with a grin.

Philosophy of life: I'm optimistic and a positive thinker. People who are negative and look for the worst always find it.

Proudest accomplishment: My kids and grand kids.

Hobbies: Sports, golf, fishing, riding my Firefighter Edition Harley Davidson Ultra Classic motorcycle.

Bucket list: I don't really have one. I've found the best things in life that are memorable have been spontaneous and not planned.

What is something people may not know about you: When I was in school, I used to faint when I had to get up and talk



Lenard Hansen (in vest) assists cruise ship visitors from the *Celebrity Infinity*. Photo by Cindy Hansen.

in public. I just couldn't do it. I joined Toastmasters and that really helped me.

What other career would you have chosen: There isn't one. I was so fortunate that I knew what I wanted to do in the community I was raised in. I had a wonderful career and loved every minute of it. There is no other place I would ever want to live. I love our community.



June 2015



What is something people may not know about you? When I was in school, I used to faint when I had to get up and talk.

© Hansen's early (one of) fire fighting.

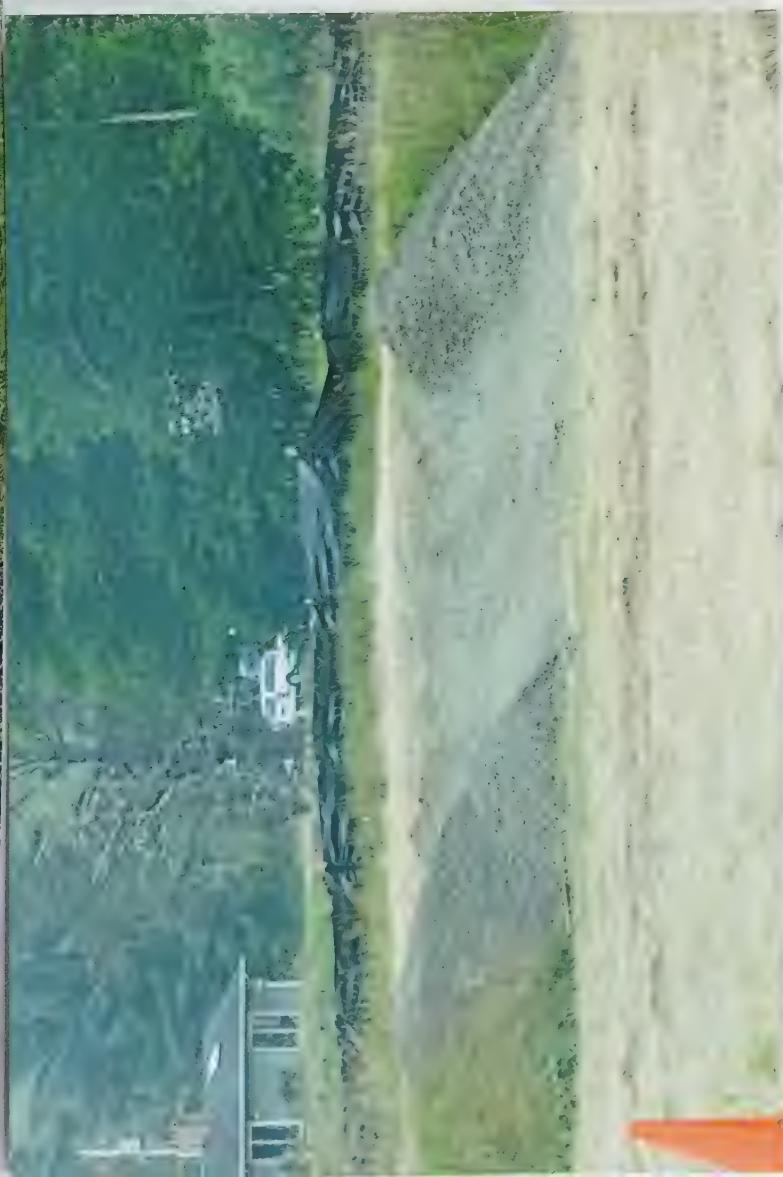


June 2015





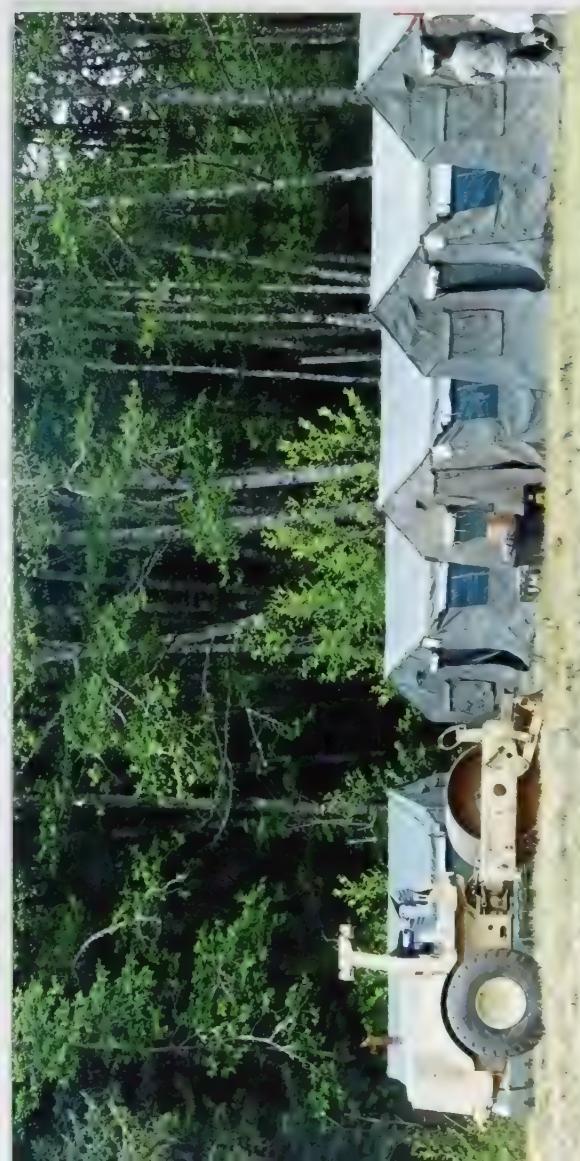
June 2015





June 2015









Henry Balensifer





2015

Kelsey

4

Henry

Balensifer





Pam Ackley
&
Steve Ackley



Lewis Clark
Fire Dept.



Henry
Balensperger

2015



Steve Acreley
Lewis & Clark
Fire Dept.



Coast
Guard
2015



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Sheriff Tom Bergin shows a radio room that had to be converted into a storage room because of the lack of space in the sheriff's office.

Relocation could mean more beds in the county jail

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

Having outgrown its location below the county jail in Astoria, the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office is making plans to relocate. The move could open up space in the jail for 30 extra beds.

The estimated \$1 million project will relocate the entire sheriff's office into its parole and probation building in Warrenton.

Construction will take six to nine months to remodel the existing 9,500-square-foot building and build a new 1,200-square-foot modular building for housing evidence.

Sheriff Tom Bergin said the move is much needed. Boxes and files are stacked up in multiple rooms throughout the sheriff's office, including in an old emergency dispatch center.

Evidence is kept in a small locker, and the rest is stored upstairs in the old jail, now the Oregon Film Museum.

About 20 deputies often share the same room to review cases and sort evidence.

See OFFICE, Page 10A



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Sheriff Tom Bergin walks into the old Clatsop County Jail, the location of the Oregon Film Museum. Because of confined space in the current sheriff's office, some evidence is stored in the old jail.

8-13-2015

Sheriff's office to move to Warrenton

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"We are just completely growing out of this space," Bergin said.

Jail beds

With the move comes the potential for using the current space for the county jail.

In 2012, a proposal to expand the jail was rejected by voters. The \$14 million proposal would have added 100 beds to the overcrowded 60-bed jail.

Four studies over the past several years have concluded the community needs a jail with about 180 beds, three times the current size, Bergin said.

Each year, about 3,500 people are booked and released in the county.

The jail rents about 10 beds from Tillamook County to help with the overcrowding.

Clearing the space below the jail is the first step in potentially adding up to 30 beds. The addition would allow the county to possibly cancel its contract with Tillamook, Bergin said, saving the community at least \$200,000 per year.

No specific plans have been set for a jail expansion. However, the extra space allows the sheriff's office to start coming up with ideas.

Bergin noted the work would not directly involve taxpayer money.

Funds for the Warrenton relocation are from a special projects budget approved by the Board of Commissioners. The board will also approve the contractor for the project.

Invitation to bid

Clatsop County Public works is accepting bids from contractors for the



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Uniforms hang next to the evidence locker in the hallway of the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office.

relocation project until Sept. 2. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Monday.

While construction is underway, the parole and probation office will operate temporarily out of offices at 16th and Exchange streets in Astoria.

Lt. Kristen Hanthorn, who oversees the parole and probation office, said she requested the temporary location so her staff is not trying to work around the construction.

The parole and probation office will have the same amount of space after the construction as it does now. It has only been using a portion of the building, located at 1190 S.E. 19th St. in Warrenton.

Much of the space was shared with a transition center, which closed in 2011 from budget constraints.

The transition center opened in 2006 and housed 24 men and six women. It provided a holding facility for local offenders and people about to be released

back into the community. Members held jobs, were on work crews and took part in treatments and other mental health services during their stay.

Hanthorn said her staff is looking forward to working under the same roof as the other sheriff's office divisions.

"We won't be like the Island of Misfit Toys," she joked.

Waiting our turn

Another benefit from the move to Warrenton is being more centrally located, Bergin said, and possibly responding quicker to incidents in the rural parts of the county.

Over the past couple decades every other county department has moved into nearby office spaces on the 800 block of Exchange Street. The majority of the departments previously shared space in the county courthouse.

Bergin said he is pleased the Board of Commissioners decided it was his turn.

"We have been put on the back burner long enough," he said. "It's time to see what we can do to enhance the sheriff's office and our capabilities."



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Sheriff Tom Bergin shows the case file room in the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office.

Office: About 3,500 people are booked and released in the county each year

8.13.2015

Erick Bengel joins The Daily Astorian

Bengel hired as enterprise, quality of life and Warrenton reporter

The Daily Astorian

Erick Bengel, a former Cannon Beach Gazette reporter, has joined The Daily Astorian's news team as the enterprise, quality of life and Warrenton reporter.

He will cover the city of Warrenton and issues relating to health, poverty, the environment and the aging population on the North Coast. In addition, he will work on long-term enterprise stories.

"I think when journalism, or any form of storytelling, is done right, it gives readers a better understanding of the people who share the world with them. It gives them glimpses of the beliefs, passions, fears, shames, hopes and joys of other human beings," he said. "In other words, it creates empathy. That's what I like to read about, and it's what I like to write about."

Bengel, who was born in Corvallis and raised in Albany, spent three years at his university newspaper, the Portland State Vanguard, working first as a news reporter, then as the arts-

and-culture editor and, lastly, as editor-in-chief.

He was The Daily Astorian's 2011 Snowden intern. The Charles Snowden Internship for Excellence in Journalism is a program, administered by the

University of Oregon's journalism department, that offers paid full-time summer positions at various publications throughout Oregon.

For the last two years, Bengel, 29, wrote for the Cannon Beach Gazette and served as the Cannon Beach correspondent for The Daily Astorian.

He lives in Astoria.

"With Erick's new role, The Daily Astorian will be better positioned to get to the 'big picture' stories and dig deeper into social issues that are important to us all," Managing Editor Laura Sellers said. "We're doubly excited to be able to recognize his great work and bring him up the coast to the daily."

Reach Bengel at 503-325-3211, ext. 218, cell at 503-440-7866, or at ebengel@dailyastorian.com. *8.19.2015*



Erick
Bengel

Keeping fishing fever in check



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Sport anglers in town for the Buoy 10 salmon fishery leave Hammond Marina early Sunday.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary helps Buoy 10 stay humming

D.A

8.11.2015

By EDWARD STRATTON

The Daily Astorian

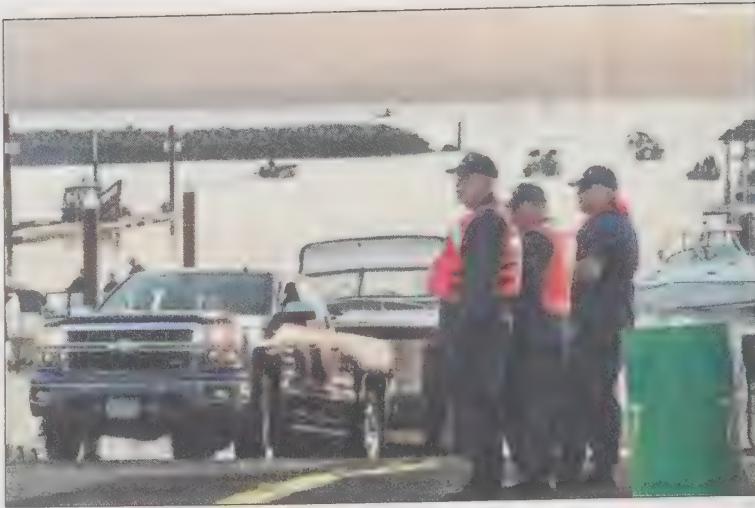
When an army of sport anglers comes to the North Coast in August for the Buoy 10 salmon fishery, the U.S. Coast Guard needs a little help.

When the boats show up at the boat ramps, the Coast Guard Auxiliary is ready, on the docks and on the Columbia River, to apply an ounce of prevention in hopes of avoiding a pound of cure.

On the river

The Coast Guard, sheriff's offices and wildlife agencies of Oregon and Washington all keep speedy boats on the water during Buoy 10 to enforce fishing rules and general safety.

Also on the water each weekend is Ron Hilburger's red 22-footer, an average-looking fishing boat except for the red, white and blue stripes and Coast Guard coat of



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

The U.S. Coast Guard auxiliary keeps a presence at local boat launches on the weekends during the Buoy 10 salmon fishery, providing safe boating information and checking for missing boat plugs, life jackets and other safety issues.

arms marking him as a patrol vessel.

"Our primary goal is boater safety," said Hilburger, a member

of Flotilla 62 based at Cape Disappointment, Wash.

On Saturday, Hilburger and fellow auxiliarists John Lester,

Flotilla 62's commander, and Glen Wood, a member of Flotilla 64 based at Tongue Point, ply the river from Buoy 10 to the Astoria Bridge. They look for safety issues, regularly pointing out people not wearing life jackets, lingering in the shipping channel and fishing in an exclusion zone on the south side of the shipping channel near Youngs Bay.

Rule 9 of the Coast Guard's navigational rules states that "a vessel engaged in fishing shall not impede the passage of any other vessel navigating within a narrow channel or fairway." By early afternoon Saturday, Hilburger's boat is helping the Coast Guard and Columbia River Bar Pilots run interference for the New Pacific, an outgoing bulk carrier making its way through Buoy 10 before heading out to sea and on to Busan, South Korea.

See BUOY 10, Page 7A

Buoy 10: Deaths in 2001 triggered stronger patrol

Continued from Page 1A

A couple years ago, Hilburger said, one fisherman avoided by a foot getting run over by a barge being towed downriver.

"He wasn't even aware of the danger, and that's what's scary," Hilburger said. "The only two people on board who had life jackets were the two kids. It wouldn't have done them much good."

On the docks

"Next weekend, this place will be organized chaos," said Corey Deck, an auxiliarist watching over the boat ramp at Hammond Marina.

Each Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning, Deck and about 12 other auxiliarists station themselves at local boat launches on either side of the lower Columbia. There rests the bulk of the auxiliary's preventative efforts to keep boaters safe, providing information on safe boating and scanning for potential issues before people ever enter the river.

"When people get fish fever, sometimes the sense is in the back seat," Deck said, shortly after noting one angler driving his draining boat back to the parking lot, after backing it into the marina without putting in his boat plugs.

Recently, Deck said, the Warrenton Police Department



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

U.S. Coast Guard auxiliarists say that the Warrenton Police Department posting an officer, in this case Robert Wirth, on scene helps defuse any potential conflicts.

started placing officers on the boat ramp at the Hammond Marina, which he added immediately improves how people carry themselves when launching. Police Chief Matt Workman said placing an officer there and facilitating traffic helps reduce the number of chippy argu-

ments between fishers.

Some of the auxiliarists are also commercial vessel safety inspectors in addition to working during Buoy 10. They offer free inspections of commercial vessels, Wood said, but because of budget constraints can't extend the service to the pro-

digious number of "six pack" charter boats taking up to six fishers apiece.

Some auxiliarists also share their opinions that life jackets, currently required only for people 12 and younger, should be required for everyone, along with VHF radios.

Reserve unit

"They're a force multiplier for us," said Capt. Daniel Travers, commander of Sector Columbia River, of the job the auxiliary does for the active duty Coast Guard.

With his units often occupied with searches and rescues,

Travers said the auxiliary, along with all the other state, county and local agencies, play an important role in keeping fishermen safe and the waterway clear for ship traffic.

He estimated about 160 active-duty Coast Guardsmen, along with the auxiliary, patrol Buoy 10, along with county sheriff's offices, state police and local agencies from both sides of the river.

The Coast Guard's strengthened Buoy 10 operation is partially a response to 2001, when seven people died during the fishery. Since then, fatalities have been reduced to at most one in a given year, but usually none.

By the halfway point of Hilburger's patrol Saturday, as he is pulling into the Warrenton marina, a report comes over the radio of a vessel taking on water. By the end of the weekend, the Coast Guard had responded to 19 cases, mostly minor except for two capsizings, six people in the water and 12 searches and rescues. The people in the water were rescued by fellow fishermen and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Last weekend was only the beginning. Travers, Workman and the auxiliarists all expect Buoy 10 to heat up over the next few weekends.

April Clark named new finance director



April Clark is the new City of Warrenton Finance Director. Clark takes over the position from Laurie Sawrey who resigned a few month ago to become the finance director for the City of Cannon Beach.

Clark has worked for the City of Warrenton for 13 years as an accountant.

"I'm really excited about the opportunity," she said. "I'm looking forward to the challenge." *Aug. 2015*



Lenard Hansen of the Warrenton Fire Department took this aerial photo showing the damage from the recent brush fire at Fort Stevens State Park.

WARRENTON FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH**John Shepherd is longest serving member of Warrenton Fire Department****By Lenard Hansen**

John Shepherd is our longest serving member of the Warrenton fire department. He joined the Hammond department as a senior in Warrenton High School in 1977. Hammond merged with the Warrenton Fire Department in 1991. John became a full-time firefighter in February of 2000 and serves as captain/training officer.

John is married to Leslie, who was also a seven-year member of the Hammond fire department. The Shepherd family has a long history in public service. John's dad (John Sr.) was fire chief of the Hammond department. His uncle (Jack) retired as a captain in the Springfield, Oregon, fire department. His cousin (Scott) is the current assistant chief for the Jefferson, Oregon, fire department. Leslie's grandfather was a longtime chief who served in the Sweet Home, Oregon, fire department. John and Leslie's daughter (Sarah) is a deputy district attorney in Polk County. John's uncle (Jim) was an Oregon State Police sergeant in the Astoria office and was murdered in 1980.

After high school graduation, John attended Clatsop Community College. He transferred credits from our community college to the University of Oregon. He has a bachelor's degree in history and an associates degree in fire science.

Some of the largest fires that he was involved in were: Ft. Stevens Jr. High School, several canneries along the Astoria waterfront, #10 6th Street in Astoria and Pacific Seafood in Warrenton. Some of the most dangerous scenes that John has responded to involve boat fires, due to the many hazards found on-board and the possibility of slipping or falling overboard.

He said that the biggest change that he's seen involves safety. Examples are the amount of training that's required and the issues that the department has to deal with. When he first joined, firefighting was the main staple of the job. Now, most of our runs (over 80 percent) involve emergency medical services. He's busy keeping members current in their training and maintaining their certifications. He also has to be active in enhancing his own knowledge such as attending an upcoming course at Clatsop College (MERTS) on conducting Live Fire training.





Dredging
the
Skanner
Oct. 2014